

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

China Overland Trade Report.

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BIRTHS.

At Foochow, on September 8th, the wife of HUBERT BIGGS, British Pro-Consul, of a daughter.
At No. 13, Seymour Road, on September 16th, Mrs. A. WELLS, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

At St. Joseph's Church, on the 16th September WILLIAM, the son of the late WILLIAM WOTHERSPOON of Wishaw, Scotland, to ISABEL, daughter of WILLIAM IMRAY of Fort Augustus, Scotland.

DEATH.

On 18th September, in England, GEORGE LOMER TOMLIN, aged 48 years. (By Telegram.)

Hongkong Weekly Press.

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ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The English Mail of the 21st August and the parcel mails closed in London for despatch by the all sea route on the 12th August and for despatch overland on the 19th Aug. arrived per *S.S. Oriental* on the 18th inst.

FAR EASTERN NEWS.

The Siam Electricity Co. of Bangkok has declared a dividend of 6 per cent. for the half year.

H. E. Jonkheer A. J. van Citters, the Netherlands Minister to China, is leaving for home on October 1st.

The interport Cricket Match at Shanghai will probably take place the first week in October. Tientsin is not sending a team.

Mr. Orlando Baker has been approved by H. M. the King as Consul of the United States of America at Sandakan, British North Borneo.

Mr. Carl Wolter, of Messrs. Meyer & Co., has been decorated by the Korean Emperor with the Order of the Third Class of the *Palkwei*.

Cholera is still very prevalent in the Philippines. An outbreak has occurred among the prisoners in Bilibid, and this week cases have occurred in the Army.

The Kiangsu Acid and Chemical Works, Shanghai, were destroyed by fire on the 6th inst. The loss is stated to have been fully covered by insurance in various companies.

The Filipino linguists have formed an association known as the Samahaning Mananagalog, the aim of which is to study all the various dialects of the country for the purpose of making out of all of them a common tongue that shall be the national language of the archipelago when the Philippine islands are granted their independence.

An application was made to the Judge in Chambers on the 16th inst. at H. B. M. Supreme Court, Shanghai, by the Crown Advocate for leave to prosecute the Editor and proprietor of the "China Gazette" (Mr. Henry O'Shea) for criminal libel in connection with statements published in that paper reflecting on Judge Wilfley of the United States Court for China. The application was granted.

It having come to the knowledge of the Shanghai Taotai that the native banks have been speculating heavily in exchange to the great detriment of trade, His Honour Tsai Lai-huang has issued a proclamation forbidding this practice. A similar notice has been sent to the French Consul-General with the request that it might be countersigned by him and posted up in the French Concession.

The shareholders of the Paknam Railway Co., Ltd of Bangkok had an animated annual meeting recently lasting three hours. The Directors among other things were condemned for putting before the shareholders a balance sheet designed to suppress necessary information, and on a vote being taken the balance sheet was rejected. Another matter discussed was a summary notice of dismissal which the Directors had given to the manager of the Company who had been ten years in their service. No reasons, he complained, had been given for dismissing him.

In consequence of the enormous increase of missionary cases in recent times, the Chinese Government is negotiating with the representatives of the various foreign countries in Peking, for the conclusion of a treaty dealing exclusively with missionary matters. In the meantime, China has informed the Diplomatic Corps that she will not be responsible for the protection, of missionaries not registered in their legations.

A meeting of the representatives of the European, American and Japanese Banks and Commercial Houses was held recently at the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, Bangkok, under the presidency of Mr. A. H. Barlow, to consider what steps could be taken with regard to the collection of subscriptions for the fund being raised in Siam to celebrate the completion of the 41st year of His Majesty's reign. The fund alluded to is being raised under the auspices of H. R. H. the Crown Prince. On the suggestion of the Chairman a small representative Committee was appointed and authorized to undertake the collection of subscriptions from the American, European, Japanese commercial firms and Banks and to hand the same over to H. R. H. the Crown Prince as Chairman of the Central Committee. The following Committee was proposed by the Chairman:—Messrs. J. W. Edie (representing the British firms), W. Brehmer (German), C. G. Edwards (American), E. Jorgensen (Danish), G. Kluser (Italian), E. C. Monod (French), Dr. de Keyser (Belgian) and R. Danno (Japanese). This was seconded and agreed to unanimously, the name of Mr. Barlow being also added to the Committee.

At the conclusion of a long trial in the case of a man named S. B. Price charged in the American Court at Shanghai with an assault with a dangerous weapon, Judge Wilfley debarred the accused's senior counsel, Mr. G. D. Musso, from appearing at the bar of the U. S. Court for China. There have been sensational incidents in the case including disputes between the Judge and the accused's attorneys and we notice in the judgment that the Judge characterises certain testimony given by Mr. Musso in the course of the case as "devoid of any ear-mark of truth." Price, who at the first trial was sentenced to six months' imprisonment, has now on a re-trial of the case by direction of the Appellate Court, been sentenced to three months. Leave to appeal again has been applied for. The announcement made by Judge Wilfley with regard to Mr. Musso seems likely, the *Mercury* says, to lead to a lengthy and in all probability sensational chapter of events. After hearing the intimation Mr. Musso proceeded to the Italian Consulate, and has since, it is understood, filed a petition there asking that an examination into his professional conduct be made. Such a step on the part of Mr. Musso was to be anticipated, as the action of Judge Wilfley must have of necessity a considerable influence upon his standing as a barrister. There is every reason to believe that Mr. Musso's petition will be granted and that the Italian Consul will conduct an enquiry, dealing naturally with the grounds upon which Judge Wilfley has withdrawn his permission to practice. The enquiry is expected to be held in public, and evidence of a more than interesting description should be forthcoming.

THE FIRST ENGLISHMAN IN JAPAN.

(Daily Press, September 14th.)

The name of WILL ADAMS will probably live for ever in the history of Japan. He was the first Englishman to set foot in the country, and it is deeply interesting to know that even now, when nearly three hundred years have passed, "prayers to the departed soul of ADAMS" are still offered at a shrine erected in his honour at Hemmimura, near Yokosuka. It has, however, been proved beyond doubt that ADAMS died at Hirado where the first English Factory was established on his advice, by the East India Company, and he was, no doubt, buried there, though no record of his burial exists. Three years ago some of the Japanese residents of Hirado resolved on the erection of a monument in his honour, but apparently funds have not flowed in to the extent desired, and now another appeal has been published by Count MATSUURA of Hirado. The promoters have learnt that subscriptions are being raised in England for repairing the Anjin shrine at Hemmimura, and while they say that this is "no doubt a good undertaking" they express the view that it is more fitting that a monument should be erected to ADAMS in the town of Hirado, where he spent his later years, where he died and was, no doubt, buried, and "where the national intercourse between Japan and the British Empire began." "We earnestly wish to erect a monument and a memorial hall," say the promoters, "in memory of ADAMS at the very place where Japan first shook hands with the British Empire, now our only ally."

Accompanying the appeal is a brief sketch of the life of WILL ADAMS, which, however, does not compare in interest with his own letters which were published in 1850 by the Hakluyt Society. ADAMS was "a Kentish Man," born in the town of Gillingham, but from the age of twelve he was brought up at Limehouse "being apprenticed twelve years to Master NICHOLAS DIGGINES." ADAMS does not himself say who Master NICHOLAS DIGGINES was, but the Appeal to which we have referred states that ADAMS learned shipbuilding in a Limehouse dockyard. ADAMS himself, however, says in one of his letters that when the Emperor asked him to make a small ship, "I answered that I was no carpenter, and had no knowledge thereof. Well, doe your endeavour, saith he: if it be not good, it is no matter." It is more probable that ADAMS learnt the sailor's and not the shipbuilder's business, for he served as "Master and Pilot in her Majesties ships," and afterwards entered the service of the Barbary Company. When the trade between Holland and the Indies began in 1598 he entered the service of a Dutch trading company, being "desirous to make a leetle experience of the small knowledge which God had given me." So he was hired in 1598 as "Pilot Maior of a flete of five sayle." It was too late in the season when they came to the line "to passe it without contrarie winds," so they were forced by the southerly winds and much sickness among the crew to go to the coast of Guinea. They took ten months to reach the Straits of Megellan. Forced by the winds to remain in the Straits six months, many of the men dying of hunger, they at length passed through, but many hard storms drove them southward and, after many perils, two of the ships found themselves off the coast of Peru. As the Peruvian monarch's ships were seeking them, they decided to direct their course to Japan, "for by report of one DIBBICK GERRITSON which had been there with the Portugals, woollen cloth was

in great estimation in that land." The ship which ADAMS piloted reached the coast of Bungo in April 1600. "Great was the miserie we were in, having no more but nine or tenne able men [in a crew which has been reduced to 24] to go or creep vpon their kness: our capitaine and all the rest, looking euery houre to die." Many boats came off and the people came aboard as the crew was too weak to offer resistance. "The people offered us no hurt, but stole all things they could steale; for which some paid deare afterwards." The Prince of Bungo sent soldiers aboard to see that no merchandise was stolen. A few days later ADAMS was sent for by "the great king of the land" and the King [Tokugawa Iyeyasu of Osaka] impressed ADAMS as being "wonderfull favourable."

"Coming before the king, he viewed me well, and seemed to be wonderfull favourable. He made many signes vnto me, some of which I vnderstood, and some I did not. In the end, there came one that coul speake Portuges. By him, the king demanded of me of what land I was, and what moued vs to come to his land, being so farre off. I shew d vnto him the name of our countrey, and that our land long sought out the East Indies, and desired friendship with all kings and potentates in way of marchandize, having in our land diuerse commodities, which these lands had not; and also to buy such marchandizes in this land, which our countrey had not. Then he asked whether our countrey had warres? I answered him yea, with the Spanyards and Portugals, being in peace with all other nations. Further, he asked me, in what I did beleue? I said, in God, that made heauen and earth. He asked me diuerse other questions of things of religions, and many other things: As what way we came to the countrey. Having a chart of the whole world, I shewed him, through the Strait of Magellan. At which he wondred, and thought me to lie. Thus, from one thing to another, I abode with him till mid-night. And having asked mee, what marchandize we had in our shippe, I shewed him all. In the end, he being ready to depart, I desired that we might haue trade of marchandize, as the Portugals and Spanyards had. To which he made me an answer; but what it was, I did not vnderstand. So he commanded me to be carried to prison. But two days after, he sent for me againe, and enquired of the qualities and condition of our countreys, of warres and peace, of beasts and catell of all sorts; and of the heuens. It seemed that he was well content with all mine answers vnto his demands. Neuerthelesse, I was commanded to prison again: but my lodging was bettered in another place."

ADAMS remained in prison daily expecting to be crucified, "for the Jesuites and the Portingalls gave many evidences against me and the rest to the Emperour, that wee were theeves and robbers of all nations, and were we suffered to live it would be against the profit of his Highnes and the land." But ADAMS was suffered to live, and at the end of 41 days was released from his prison and allowed to visit his ship. All his belongings and all those of the captain and ship's company had been stolen. When this came to the knowledge of the Emperour he commanded that the things should be restored to the ship, but many things were not recovered, and, in consequence, a sum of 50,000 Rupees in ready money was commanded to be given to them. They were not allowed to leave the country, however. The Shogun evidently took a great liking to ADAMS and frequently gave him audience. The success of ADAMS' attempt at shipbuilding especially pleased him. He built a vessel of eighty tons burthen, and later on one of 120 tons. The Shogun gave him presents from time to time, and at length "a yearly stipend to live upon, much about seventie ducats by the yeare, with two pounds of rice a day." Being now in such grace and favour, "by reason I learned him some points of

jeometry and understanding of the art of Mathematickes with other things: I pleased him so that what I said he would not contrarie." But he did when it came to ADAMS wanting to leave Japan, at ADAMS' request, however, he granted the captain leave to go. For his service the Shogun gave ADAMS a living "like unto a lordship in England, with eightie or ninetie husbandmen that be as my slaves, or servants; which, on the like president, was never here before given to any stranger." As we have said, it was through his instrumentality that an English Factory was established at Hirado, but it did not long survive him. ADAMS died there after a residence in Japan of twenty-one years. The proposal to erect a monument to his memory is therefore one of peculiar interest to Englishmen, who, we take it, are invited to subscribe to the memorial.

THE VENTILATION OF SHIPS.

(Daily Press, September 15th.)

Nothing is so easy of ventilation as a modern steamer; the engine room and boiler and funnel casings afford ideal opportunities for the construction of exhaust shafts from every portion of the interior of the ship; yet perhaps from that very cause nowhere do we find the most elementary requirements of the most ordinary change of air so utterly set at naught as in your modern passenger steamship. Nor is the neglect of the most ordinary sanitary appliances for the supply of fresh air by any means confined to the cheap and nasty coasting steamer, but we find it rampant even in otherwise well constructed ocean-going vessels, where passengers have to traverse the great oceans for many days without a break. In most other cases where a number of human beings have to be accommodated for a more or less prolonged period, the Board of Trade or Parliament directly, has made provision for adequate ventilation; the passenger steamship appears amongst the few exceptions. The scandalous over-crowding of coolie emigrant ships in the early years of the last century did indeed produce an Act defining the minimum amount of space to be allowed for each coolie shipped, but strangely enough no provision was made for the adequate provision of fresh air; battering down was indeed forbidden, but otherwise ventilation seems to have been passed over. The statutable limit of minimum space under the Act is 72 cubic feet for each individual carried, which is required to be clear from obstruction of any kind. In an ordinary ship with, say, a 'tween-deck, 8 feet high, this will be met by passengers about 2ft. 8in. with a triple row of bunks, 6ft. 6in. long at each side. As each adult on an average renders unrespirable about 900 cubic feet of air per hour, the amount allowed to each, 72 cubic feet, will need to be renewed twelve times each hour to maintain healthy conditions: provided the spaces be left open this can be accomplished from the hatchways, without calling on the ports which are liable to be closed in bad weather. To Orientals accustomed to high temperatures no great hardships need be undergone in properly regulated ships, whether steam or sailing.

When we come to examine the accommodation usually provided for the superior classes of passengers another state of things is to be noticed. In the ordinary steamship, from motives of privacy, the accommodation is usually provided in closed off cabins, where every obstruction is offered to the free circulation of air: in few cases is there any exit provided for the vitiated air

into the open, for the most part it being allowed to escape as best it can through small opens into the interior passages of the ship, generally themselves more or less foul with air escaped from the engines and boiler rooms. Motives of economy induce the owners to crowd as many passengers as possible into each closed compartment, and the ordinary passenger himself, as often as not from ignorance, aggravates the evil by closing up every opening he can through some vague fear of "drafts". An aggravated instance of overcrowding in a steamer used for long excursions, accompanied with a practically total absence of any provision for ventilation whatever, was recently brought under the notice of the writer. The entire of the superior passenger accommodation was here centralised amidships around the engine and boiler spaces, so that there was absolutely no excuse on the part of the builders and owners. With the exception of a small companion and two doors situated aft, there was absolutely no means for the admission of the outer air except through small ports, which had to be closed in bad weather or when the decks were being washed: more remarkable still, there was not a single opening upwards from the passenger deck, the entire of which was hermetically sealed to prevent the possible escape of the spent and over-heated air. To make matters worse, the galley and cooking offices were actually placed on the upper deck without any communication with the outer air otherwise than through small ports at the sides opening on to what was left for a promenade deck. The sleeping accommodation provided for upwards of ninety passengers consisted in twenty-three small cabins, the largest of which, actually measured, contained slightly under 600 cubic feet, without allowing for fittings, packages, &c. Making allowance for these, the actual space allotted to each passenger was 123 cubic feet, or just sufficient to sustain ordinary breathing for $7\frac{1}{2}$ minutes! Fortunately, during the passage across the Pacific Ocean no bad weather was experienced, so that except during the time of washing decks it was not necessary to close the ports. Still a large proportion of the passengers were compelled to sleep on a somewhat restricted deck, or accept what rough accommodation could be provided on an emergency elsewhere.

Now, as above indicated, in this case by the provision of one or two guarded opens for the admission of fresh air, and the construction of extraction air passages around the funnel and boiler casings, a perfectly efficient system of ventilation was actually at hand, and only required the exercise of a little knowledge and discretion to be put in an efficient working condition. Of course, in ship-ventilation, as in mine ventilation, nothing must be left to the discretion of the passenger or worker, whose first instinct in both cases will be to close up every orifice admitting or discharging air. One rule above all should be made imperative, and that is that besides any air that may be admitted by ports or other external openings liable to be closed during bad weather, each steamship carrying passengers should be provided within itself with a system of ventilation capable of supplying under the worst conditions a minimum of 1000 cubic feet of air per hour for each passenger carried, and such ventilation to be entirely beyond the control of any passenger on board. No additional expense need be incurred in thus fitting up a steamship; the means, in fact, are always at hand in the engine and boiler casings, the high temperature of which is always available with a little forethought to

set in action a series of exhaust tubings. It is no credit to our great ship-building establishments that in the majority of cases the ventilation of our ocean-going steamships remains in the same archaic condition as it was found upwards of half a century ago.

CATS AS PLAGUE PREVENTERS.

(Daily Press, September 16th.)

Plague has practically ceased to trouble Hongkong any more this year, but it will be seen from the report of the proceedings at yesterday's meeting of the Sanitary Board that attention is being wisely devoted in the "off-season" to devising measures which we may reasonably hope will do something to reduce the extent of these annually recurring epidemics. Thanks to the exhaustive investigations which have been carried on in India, the Sanitary authorities, wherever plague epidemics occur, are now able to intelligently attack the problem. The ignorance which up to now has prevailed with regard to the etiology and epidemiology of plague has been responsible even in a small place like Hongkong for an unprofitable expenditure of millions of dollars. After eighteen years of cleansing and purifying operations involving extensive structural alterations to almost every Chinese tenement in the Colony, we have had this year 1043 cases, a number which has only been exceeded twice since the great epidemic of 1894. And now we have the finding of the Indian Plague Commission that "insanitary conditions have no relation to the occurrence of plague, except in so far as they favour infestation by rats." That bubonic plague in man is entirely dependent on the disease in the rat and that infection is conveyed to man solely by means of the rat-flea are definitely ascertained facts. The Indian Plague Commission further declare that the infection is conveyed from rat to rat, as well as from rat to man, solely by means of the rat-flea; so, until plague-infected rats can be isolated, as we isolate cases of infectious diseases among human beings, we shall always be liable to plague epidemics unless we can exterminate the whole breed of rats. And that we cannot hope to do. The Summary of the Work of the Indian Plague Commission, for a copy of which we are indebted to the Head of the Sanitary Department, is silent as to how the plague-infected districts are to get rid of the rats. That question was not, of course, within the scope of their investigations. Having ascertained how plague is spread, they leave it to the Sanitary authorities to take what measures seem to them most effectual to prevent these dreadful epidemics. Dr. SAMBON, lecturer to the London School of Tropical Medicine, told a meeting held in London recently under the auspices of the newly-incorporated Society for the Destruction of Vermin, that the Eastern worship of serpents, and especially the deadly cobra, arose out of the fact that these reptiles were regarded as servants of preventive medicine, the slayers of disease-carrying rats. But they are never likely to become popular as household pets. Dr. SAMBON seemed to be of opinion that only the black rat became infected with plague, and he suggested the experiment of introducing the grey rat into some Eastern island to see whether he would not destroy the black rat and yet remain immune from plague. Hongkong will not be encouraged to try the experiment after what the Indian Plague Commission have to say on the subject. Both the grey rat and the black rat are present in great

numbers in the plague infected districts of India and the Commission found more plague infection among the grey rats than among the black. That effectually explodes Dr. SAMBON's theory. The only experiment so far suggested which seems to be worth making is the experiment of keeping cats which was suggested to the Sanitary Board by the Hon. COLONIAL SECRETARY. It seems that wherever that experiment has been tried it has proved an unqualified success, and we anticipate very little difficulty in getting the Chinese inhabitants of the Colony to co-operate in the matter. The Chinese are fond of cats. In Canton and the surrounding districts, we understand, the cat is commonly to be found as a household pet, and it may be that this accounts to a large extent for the greater freedom from plague which Canton is reputed to enjoy as compared with Hongkong. The conditions of life, however, are somewhat different in Hongkong. Here, where different families live on a single floor, the keeping of cats has its disadvantages, but when immunity from plague is set against the small amount of trouble involved in training a cat to cleanly habits, the people will doubtless see the matter in the light in which the Sanitary Board wish them to see it. We may mention an instance which is within our own knowledge of the value of the cat in preventing plague. Throughout one plague season a family of five persons occupied a floor in a house in which seventeen cases of plague occurred. This family kept a cat which was a good "ratter," and not one person living on that floor got the infection. We believe cases of this kind can be multiplied by scores in Hongkong; and, if only the keeping of cats becomes a general practice we believe the community could confidently look forward to a great reduction in the dimensions of these annually-recurring epidemics of plague. The experiment deserves every encouragement.

BRITISH TRADE METHODS IN CHINA.

(Daily Press, 17th September.)

In the course of an interview which Sir ROBERT HART a short time ago gave to a writer on the staff of a London commercial magazine he expressed the opinion that the growth of foreign trade in China depends very largely upon the readiness with which merchants adapt their supplies to the ascertained demands of the people. This is but another way of stating a complaint against the conservatism of merchants—and especially British merchants—which has been constantly re-iterated in the annual reports of the British Consuls. Mr. Consul-General MANSFIELD in his report on the trade of Canton for 1907, a copy of which is just to hand, makes a few remarks which are very pertinent to this subject. It is a matter of surprise, he says, that with the very patent demands for modern labour-saving machinery, the great manufacturers of England should for the most part confine themselves to circulars and catalogues and inquiries of their Consuls for agents to push their wares. Such efforts, he says emphatically, are useless. "The one and only method is to send out practical men to study the wants of the Chinese, explain the nature and capacity of their machines, quote definite laid-down prices, and, later on, exhibit samples in actual work. Other nations are prepared to do this, and if the British manufacturer does not want to be left out in the cold, he must follow suit." The advice is sound enough, but the words of wisdom embodied in the Consular

reports seldom come under the observation of those for whom they were especially intended. It would be a mistake to suppose that fault is to be found with the British manufacturer only. In these days of strenuous competition Consuls of all nationalities, no doubt, see plenty of misdirected effort on the part of manufacturers at home who dream of securing orders by means of the wide distribution of circulars which probably not one in a thousand among the recipients can understand. The advice given by Consul-General MANSFIELD, whose long service in China renders him exceptionally competent to give it, will be admitted to be eminently sound, and we think we may say that many British manufacturers fully appreciate the need for sending out practical men to explain the nature and capacity of new machinery. There is no doubt a big field opening up in China for machinery. The desire for factories of all kinds seems likely to develop into something like a mania, but we have no doubt that while some manufacturers are wasting their time and money in the manner described by Mr. MANSFIELD there are others—British included—who are quietly working in the right way to secure what orders may be going. The merchants established at Hongkong and Canton who represent firms of machinery makers are probably as well acquainted as the Consul with the prospects of business in this line, but they will be interested to learn Mr. MANSFIELD's opinion that nowhere in China are they brighter than at Canton.

FRANCE AND TONKIN.

(Daily Press, 18th September.)

The vigorous measures which have been taken by the French authorities in Tonkin to preserve peace within the province and along the frontier appear to have been attended with complete success. In official circles in Paris it has from the first been maintained that an undue amount of pessimism has been manifested by the public regarding the situation in Indo-China, and the blame has been laid at the door of the French Colonial Press. We have noticed among the rumours to which publicity has been given in Paris one to the effect that an army of 10,000 Chinese revolutionaries threatened the frontier of Tonkin, while bands of brigands, estimated to number upwards of 30,000, were said to be over-running French territory. Coming as it did upon the heels of such rumours as these, the sensational story of the native plot to poison a regiment of artillery at Hanoi—a plot which very nearly succeeded—naturally tended to confirm the previous stories and created much anxiety in France. So much pessimism indeed, has prevailed in France, that the Minister of the Colonies last month permitted himself to be interviewed by two of the leading Paris papers to whom he gave explanations calculated to pacify the public mind. His first bit of advice was in the nature of a warning against the Colonial Press which he declared to be "inspired by motives not always those of the general interest." We are not concerned to defend the papers of Indo-China from this general charge, but we are at a loss to understand what motives they can have for representing the political situation in Indo-China to be worse than they really believe it to be. We have ourselves attentively read some of the Indo-China papers, and we should rather be inclined to give to the papers some measure of credit for the improvement in the situation. They at any rate, spurred the authorities to action. The Government is sending to Indo-China this autumn 4,000

fresh troops, and as the inadequacy of the garrison has been the cause of the "panniky" feeling, the Colonial Press is justified by the action of the Government, if not by the public declaration of the Minister of the Colonies. It is not an easy matter to determine the extent of the revolutionary movement in Tonkin. A few months ago the Colonial Press brought to notice some inflammatory literature which had been extensively circulated among the natives in Annam counselling an uprising against French domination. Later came the Hanoi incident, complicated by a mutiny, both organised, the Minister is reported to have declared, by malcontent Mandarins and certain Annamites "who had imbibed anti-European ideas from residence in China and Japan, and members of secret societies." As to the troubles on the northern frontier of Tonkin, the Minister rightly said these must be ascribed to the insurrection of reformers against the Chinese Government. "When a band of reformers have been defeated they make their way into French territory, refuse to surrender their arms, fight to defend them, and pillage to preserve their existence. But it is not probable or logical that these bands are in relations with malcontents in Annam or Tonkin." The Chinese Government, however, do not accept this view, and we may well leave the decision to those who are appointed to determine this question, which arises in connection with the claims made by France against China for a violation of the frontier. The lesson of the experience is that the disturbers of the peace—be they Chinese or Annamite—can be controlled by an adequate display of physical force. France, however, has its "Little Frankers" as England has its "Little Englanders," and M. HENRI ROCHEFORT has been distinguishing himself recently by advocating the abandonment of the Colony "while it can be done gracefully". His view is that ever since the defeat of Russia by Japan "it has been evident that France will not be allowed to occupy the country for many more years." M. HENRI ROCHEFORT's advice in the matter is not likely to be acted upon. France would save ten millions of francs a year by abandoning Tonkin, but we question whether "the blow to French pride" would be saved by the saving of that expense.

CHINESE GIRL COMMITS SUICIDE.

At the Magistracy on September 17th before Mr. J. H. Kemp, sitting as coroner, and Messrs. J. Clark, J. D. Osmund and J. E. Gome, jurors, an inquiry was held into the cause of death of a Chinese girl named Tung Man Kin, who died from opium poisoning on the 8th inst.

Dr. J. C. Thompson stated that on examination of deceased, he found death to be due to opium poisoning. He did not think the girl's life could have been saved, had medical assistance been called earlier. The effect of opium was very uncertain. Symptoms at times came out severely within a quarter of an hour, while sometimes they were delayed for an hour or more.

Tsung Li, deceased's mistress, said that when she returned home she found the girl unable to understand what was said to her. Witness went to the police station and asked the sergeant on duty to get a doctor. The sergeant told witness to go back and find out what was the matter with the girl. She did not mention at the station that she had failed to get a doctor, but said she was afraid the girl would die. Witness could not say what reason deceased had for committing suicide.

To a juror—The police arrived about 4.30 p.m. and found the cup before the Court.

After hearing further evidence the jury found that deceased committed suicide by opium poisoning.

RANDOM REFLECTIONS.

Have you ever noticed the boycott which is silently but effectively waged against a number of our most respectable citizens? You notice a certain gentleman leave his office. Perhaps he weighs twelve stone. Instead of the chair coolies making a wild rush towards him they suddenly discover a fare, beckoning them from some distance off, and away they run, disappearing round the corner. Observe the taipan's progress. He proceeds to the next stand, only to find that some sentinel has sighted his advance and warned, the chair coolies, who are nowhere to be seen. The taipan feels annoyed and his feelings are not soothed by the knowledge that there is a grin on several Chinese faces. This boycott is not a fantasy of Roderick's imagination. It is to be seen every day. Why, only a few days ago a certain well-known gentleman approached Wyndham Street only to find that there was not a single chair at the stand. One pair, on seeing him come near, ran up the street a little way, deposited their chair at the side of the street, pulled off the cover and seated themselves among the idlers on the road. It was smartly done but—Aye, there is much significance in a "but."

Ricsha coolies are not a whit better. In some respects they are worse, because their fleetness of foot enables them to get out of the way more easily than the chair bearers. Instances have been related at the Magistracy during the past few weeks of ricsha pullers deliberately running away when hailed by Europeans, while others try to "work the old gag" by declaring that they "have got one piece master inside." Surely that is a boycott? The police try to keep the ricsha men and chair bearers in order, but unless they are supported by the Magistrates their efforts are of no avail. Happily a few exemplary fines have been imposed on offending pullers and bearers, but the evil is by no means abated. I have seen occasions when the police themselves were the victims, and when the boycott is adopted to such an extent one may be sure the feeling of which it is the expression is fairly deep seated.

I can understand both chair bearers and ricsha pullers not showing enthusiasm to take a particularly heavy fare, and I can also understand their seeking to avoid the mean man who takes them a long and arduous journey and only pays the bare tariff. But what I cannot grasp is the attitude which induces them to take one and refuse another where these distinctions do not apply. Ricsha pullers will, late at night, ignore a certain ten cent fare for a reasonable distance in the hope of securing a man mellow with liquor and the prospect of more generous remuneration. That is gambling with a vengeance. The ordinary Occidental whose maxim is "a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush" cannot appreciate such philosophy and doubtless regards this as another of "the tricks that are vain and ways that are dark."

Perhaps it is the initials, or it may be just the general impression one gets from reading Colonel Seely's speeches, that recalls the famous John B. immortalised in the "Bigelow Papers"—

John B. Robinson, he

Says the world 'll go right if he only says "gee!" John B. Seely must be finding that in his Colonial team there are many jibbers, and that things do not go as he wishes when he says a gee!

Shareholders in the Hongkong Hotel Company must be better satisfied now with the management of their property than they were some time ago when proceedings at the Statutory meetings were not so dull and prosy as they have since become. On Saturday the meeting was delayed at least twenty minutes owing to the paucity of the attendance and messengers and telephones had to be used to bring the requisite members under the chairmanship of Dr. Noble. It speaks well for the confidence which shareholders have in their directors.

Of all men, surely, Colonel John B. Seely, Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, ought to welcome the inauguration of a University in Hongkong. The right hon. gentleman has a poor opinion, at present, of our culture-level, for quite recently he publicly declared from his place in the House of Commons (*vide the Times report*) that "it was quite impossible to get anything like a reasoned opinion from the inhabitants of Hongkong." Evidently a University is badly needed in the Colony, and I hope the Faculty will see to it that instruction in Logic and Philosophy is not neglected. Perhaps Colonel John B. Seely may feel disposed to endow a chair—or, better still, offer his services as a Lecturer on these subjects?

Time clauses in building contracts was a matter to which Dr. Noble referred in his speech to the shareholders on the Hongkong Hotel Company. These clauses are inserted in contracts with almost unfailing regularity but they do not seem to mean anything. At any rate they are seldom, if ever adhered to, and were the penalties enforced the victims would feel they were being harshly treated. It is not well that such a clause be allowed to become a dead letter. Occasions will arise when contracts must be fulfilled as drafted, and then trouble will follow when that is not done. The matter is certainly worth attention.

"Mr. Li Sum Ling of Hongkong" must be feeling that he is a man of importance in the world. A copy of the *New York Herald's* Paris edition for August 11th to hand by the mail last week bears on its front page a photograph of Mr. Li, and there is an interview with him which runs to two columns. Above it all, in big type extending the width of five columns, are the words "Chinese Editor urges Alliance with America." "Mr. Li," says the interviewer, "is only twenty-six years old, but his education and comprehension are those of an old statesman," and this interview apparently started the propaganda in favour of a Chinese-American Alliance. How many of my readers had heard of Mr. Li Sum Ling previous to this?

Thomas Gray has told us that perhaps in Stoke Pogis Churchyard there lie "some hearts once pregnant with celestial fire," also "hands that the rod of Empire might have swayed." But that is an unprofitable reflection—the mere figment of a poet's imagination. Those very hands that the poet was thinking of might only have been capable of swaying a hoe in a turnip field. Mr. Gordon Bennett, the wealthy proprietor of the *New York Herald*, is a business man, not a poet, and during a brief visit to Hongkong he was able to go one better than the old English poet by finding alive and in the vigour of youth one whose hands are at this present hour quite capable of swaying the rod of Empire. There are no "might-have-beens" about it. Hongkong should feel proud of the discovery. When it was made this young man with "the education and comprehension of an old statesman" was filling the position of a publisher and writer on a Chinese local newspaper. Previous to that he was a clerk in a local bank. At one bound, thanks to Mr. Gordon Bennett, who took him to Europe, Mr. Li has reached the pinnacle of fame. As the author of such a world shaking proposal as the Chinese-American Alliance his name has become known to all the nations of earth. Who can say that Mr. Li will not one day be the Chinese Minister to Washington? The whirligig of time brings many changes—but methinks there can be only one end to the fame which has been thrust upon Mr. Li. It is the end of which Byron wrote:—

Tis but to fill

A certain portion of uncert

Mr. Li Sum Ling, I fancy, has filled his portion.

Chinese ladies are progressing. A few weeks ago we saw them participating in the mild excitements of a bazaar for the first time, but the newest phase of their imitation of Western life is to take the leading ceremonial part in the launching of a vessel. Within a few days Miss Li, the eldest daughter of Admiral Li Chun, will christen the new cruiser which the Kowloon Dock Company is building for the Chinese

Navy. She will be the first Chinese lady to christen a vessel in the Hongkong shipyards, and the occasion will have an added interest and importance on that account.

"A basket of babes." "Three for sixty cents." How home newspapers would revel in the use of such effective headlines? How the public would thrill if they read them? Yet we don't thrill here. The incidents which they describe were only too frequent years ago in the Colony, but now the traffic in human life, though still existing, is not so great. The authorities have endeavoured to stop it so far as they can, but we all know the strength of "old custom" among Chinese and know how difficult it is to remove what has been so long engrained. Would this buying and selling in Hongkong were stopped altogether. It is no credit to our British administration under which all are supposed to be free.

The shortening days with the consequent decrease of time for outdoor exercise has induced a correspondent in the *Daily Press* to suggest an application to Hongkong, of the daylight saving principle embodied in a Bill at home. It certainly sounds attractive. I would rather, speaking for myself, leave the office about four o'clock when that craving comes over one which is only satisfied with a draught from the cup that cheers. Then having tea in comfort I would anticipate with greater pleasure the joy which comes from whacking balls. Juveniles and adults are alike in that respect. They love to knock balls about. Of course this extra hour at sport would mean starting out an hour earlier in the morning. That, however, would be no hardship. But how do the taipans and the hongers regard the suggestion? It would mean a rearrangement of office routine and would mean some little trouble to get those with whom they do business to fall into line, so that the question to be decided is—Is it worth while? Undoubtedly the young men and women would appreciate the extra hour for outdoor pleasure during the season when it is most enjoyable, but, if it involves injury to business, the suggestion need not be entertained. It would be interesting to have some expressions of opinion on the subject.

The young Dock swimmers have not been allowed to hold the laurels very long for the Hunghom-Victoria swim. Mr. C. J. Cooke has reduced their time by no less than eighteen minutes, a very fine performance indeed. Probably Cooke is a stronger swimmer than either of the two young men indicated, but it has to be remembered that Cooke set out to lower the record which they established, whereas McBride and Wilson were not swimming against time. They merely contemplated covering the distance between Kowloon Dock and Blake Pier, and they swam so easily that they finished quite fresh. That being so, it is fair to assume that they could beat their first performance on another trial. However, the harbour swim will, doubtless, bring out all our best swimmers and another record will likely be set up, if the conditions are favourable.

The Stockbrokers tell us that the market is going strong. The demand for stocks is stronger than it has been for months past. What is the meaning of it? Does it mean revived prosperity in the local trade markets, or does it mean that as bad times are threatening at home money is being brought East for investment while the dollar is low?

RODERICK RANDOM.

LIEUTENANT'S COURAGEOUS ACT.

On Sept 16th while the torpedo boat 637 was leaving the Kowloon Docks with several guests on board, a boy in the service of one of the party fell overboard and disappeared from sight. Lieutenant E. W. Isaacson promptly dived into the water but failed to rescue the boy. Divers from the dredger "St. Enoch" were hailed and they attempted to recover the body but without success.

HONGKONG.

It is satisfactory to be able to record that there were no cases of plague during the week ended 12th instant, and that none have since been recorded. Out of a total of 1069 cases for the year, however, 914 proved fatal. This last includes three European cases, one fatal. Last week five Chinese cases of cholera were reported in the city.

Hubert S. Holmes appeared before Mr. Kemp on a charge of having obtained, by certain false pretences, from Chung Tsam Leung the sum of \$3,000 with intent to defraud. Mr. C. F. Dixon (of Messrs. Hastings and Hastings) prosecuted, and Mr. H. K. Holmes, defendant's brother, appeared for the defence. Defendant, who pleaded not guilty, was remanded until Tuesday at 2:15 p.m., bail being allowed in the sum of \$4,000.

An officer of the Chinese Customs has been victimised by a Hongkong thief. On Sept. 16th he took a ricscha at the German Tavern to proceed to the Canton steamers wharf, whence he was going to ship to Hoihow. On the way he fell asleep, and while he slept he was relieved of a gold watch valued at \$120, two promissory notes for \$90 and deposits to the value of \$1,000. It is doubtful whether these articles will be recovered, as the Customs official failed to take the number of his ricscha, admitting that he was under the influence of liquor at the time.

Private ricschas have been giving the police some trouble of late by reason of the obstruction they caused in the main thoroughfares of the city, and owners of these vehicles would be well advised to find other quarters for them than the streets when they are not in use. Not only do they cause an obstruction when left out over night, but they afford unskilled pullers an opportunity of making a little money from fares, thus depriving the licensed ricscha coolies of his means of livelihood. Again, they may be the means of serious accidents by reason of the pullers' ignorance of the rules of the road. For sometime the police have endeavoured to get them removed from the main streets, but were always unsuccessful in finding either owners or pullers. This difficulty, however, has now been overcome by Inspector Fenton of Wanchai, who conceived the idea of having these ricschas taken to the police station, and on Saturday morning sixteen private vehicles were removed to No. 2 Police Station. Out of this number nine owners and pullers made application on the same day for return of their vehicles, and in this way proceedings were taken against the nine pullers before Mr. J. R. Wood yesterday. His Worship fined five of the defendants \$1 apiece, discharged two with a caution, and estreated the bail of \$5 on which the other defendant was liberated, as he failed to appear. It is expected that claimants will in due course make application for the return of the remaining vehicles, when further prosecutions will probably be taken.

DEATH OF MR. G. L. TOMLIN.

We regret to learn that on Tuesday Mr. C. Pemberton, acting Secretary of the China Fire Insurance Co., received a cable from London announcing the death of Mr. George L. Tomlin, the well-known secretary of the Company.

Mr. Tomlin had been ailing for some time, and after consulting three local doctors and learning from each that he was suffering from cancer in the throat, he decided to take a trip home to consult a specialist. He left Hongkong on leave, June 2nd. He went under an operation at home, had the growth removed and thought that his troubles were over. Unfortunately, however, he rapidly declined, and has now succumbed to the dread disease.

Mr. Tomlin, who was a member of the Perseverance Lodge and a prominent Mason, arrived in the Colony some twenty years ago. For about two years he served in an architect's office and then joined the China Fire Insurance Co. as a clerk. This was on the 15th September, 1882. From a junior Mr. Tomlin worked his way up until he became Secretary of the Company, a position in which he had been for ten years, and held until the time of his death. Deceased, who was 48 years of age, leaves a large circle of friends in the Colony, who will regret to hear that he has passed away.

SUPREME COURT.

Wednesday, 16th September.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. H. H. J. GOMPERTZ (ACTING
PUISNE JUDGE).

LANDLORD AND TENANT.

P. W. Goldring, solicitor, claimed the sum of \$500 damages from the Humphreys Estate and Finance Company, Limited, for breach of contract. The plaintiff alleged that the defendant firm failed to comply with an agreement whereby they undertook to keep the roof and exterior walls of the premises he occupied at Kowloon in a proper state of repair. Mr. E. J. Grist, of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist, appeared for the plaintiff, while Mr. P. M. Hodgson, of Messrs. Ewens and Harston, acted on behalf of the defendants.

Mr. Grist stated that Mr. Goldring had rented from the defendant firm a floor in one of their buildings at Kowloon. Only the flat in which plaintiff lived was let to him but not the roof which was the property of the landlord, whose duty it was to keep it in proper condition for the use of the tenants. On the 28th July last there was a typhoon in Hongkong. Eight or ten days later there was a heavy rainstorm, which caused water to accumulate on that portion of the roof above plaintiff's floor. The water came through and damaged a considerable portion of his property. A carpet was spoiled, also a gramophone and a number of records.

His Lordship—Supposing the typhoon took the roof right off, would you still have a remedy?

Mr. Grist—I don't think so.

Did you give notice to the defendants to repair the roof?—No.

Was the roof damaged by the typhoon?—I can't say that. All the pipes were choked with leaves which must have been blown on to the roof by the typhoon, causing the accumulation of water. We do not put the damage down to the typhoon. The defendants are under an obligation to keep the roof in good condition, and as there had been a typhoon it was their duty to see whether any repairs were necessary.

His Lordship—You do not say whether it is due to the typhoon or not?

Mr. Grist—We say defendants should have inspected the roof after the typhoon. We could not get on the roof, which was not let to us, and we would be trespassers if we went there.

His Lordship—Yes, you would be.

Plaintiff then entered the witness box and related the facts as outlined by Mr. Grist. On the morning after the rain storm the water entered his sitting room in torrents. There were about three inches of water on the floor. Under cross-examination he admitted that the roof was very good.

All the damage you speak of occurred nearly a month after the typhoon?—Yes.

You don't suggest that this damage was done by the typhoon?—No. But there were heavy rains in August.

It is quite possible that on the night of the 20th August during the rain leaves and rubbish were blown to your roof from the other roofs?—I don't think so.

Why not?—I think it was a gradual choking of the drain.

Next morning did you know the pipes were choked?—How could I know?

Did not the defendants, after receiving your letter, go at once to clear the pipes?—I don't know if they did or not.

You have said that you had no means of ascertaining if the pipes were choked? How do you suppose the defendants would know?—I understand they can do so from the end house.

How many gramophone records have you?—Two hundred.

How long have you had them?—Twenty-five of them less than six months.

Was the gramophone damaged?—The legs came off.

As a matter of fact your loss is purely a sentimental one?—No, I am not worrying so much about the money; I am bringing this action on principle.

Any other tenants suffer damage to their property?—Yes. A lady had all her sitting-room furniture damaged. I am told over 5,000 blankets belonging to the Army Ordinance were destroyed.

As a matter of fact this is only a test case?—I am going entirely on my own responsibility.

If you succeed the other tenants will send in their claims?—I don't know.

Plaintiff's "coolie" also gave evidence in support of his case.

For the defence, Mr. E. Seth, secretary of the company, said the house in question was only eighteen months old. Beyond the notice he had received on the 21st August, he had got no other. The company had no reason to suppose that the house needed repairs. When he received the notice he went over to Mr. Goldring's house, examined the damage, and returned to the office and reported it. On the following Saturday, accompanied by Mr. Bird, he examined the roof but could find nothing wrong.

Cross-examined: The company had previously paid compensation to other tenants for damage done, but in those cases notices had been given and the damage repaired. The compensation paid was \$50.

This closed the case for the defence.

Mr. Hodgson submitted that it was necessary for the tenant to give notice to the landlord of any repair that was needed. The case was important to all landlords in the colony.

His Lordship—It is also important to tenants.

Mr. Hodgson contended that the roof was let to the tenant and if the landlord went on the roof it was trespass.

His Lordship—I think it would be going rather far to say the landlord would be a trespasser if he went on the roof of his own house. I don't know that he ought to go there, but I don't think he could be legally prevented.

Mr. Hodgson added that landlords could not be expected to keep a staff of inspectors to inspect roofs every day, and see if pipes were choked.

His Lordship—The plaintiff's case is this: If a landlord in this colony lets property he is an insurer against damage caused by weather.

Mr. Grist—I don't go quite so far as that.

His Lordship—Pretty near it.

Mr. Grist—I say that in view of the circumstances of the typhoon he was negligent in not going and seeing to the roof.

Mr. Hodgson submitted that as there was no structural defect alleged this clause did not apply to damage caused by a choked drain.

Mr. Grist having replied, his Lordship said that as both sides considered the case one of importance he would reserve his decision.

Thursday, 17th September.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. H. H. J. GOMPERTZ (ACTING
PUISNE JUDGE).

THE FATE OF A CAMERA.

W. L. Weaser, architect and surveyor, brought an action against Long Hing and Company, photographic dealers, 17 Queen's Road Central, for the return of a camera, or in the alternative \$90 the value thereof. Mr. Gardiner, from the office of Messrs. Bratton and Hett, appeared for the plaintiff, and the defendant company was represented by Mr. Morrell, of Messrs. Goldring, Barlow and Morrell.

Mr. Morrell said plaintiff had not made out his case. There had been no suggestion of neglect, and neglect must be proved before he could recover on a bailment of this kind, defendants not receiving any reward for warehousing the camera. It was simply a deposit. Plaintiff wanted to impose on defendants the duty of looking after any camera which he liked to leave. His clients said they handed back the camera to Mr. Goldsmith and they did not know Mr. Weaser in the matter at all.

The hearing was adjourned until Wednesday, ACTION AGAINST A CINEMATOGRAPH PROPRIETOR.

Fang Yu brought an action against August Danfresne, cinematograph proprietor, for \$150, being wages due at the rate of \$30 a month since April 1st. to 31st August. Mr. O. D. Thomson appeared for the plaintiff and defendant was represented by Mr. Otto Kong Sing.

Charles Nugent sued the same defendant for \$1,987.18 money advanced to and paid on behalf of the defendant, the claim being reduced to \$1,000 to bring it within the jurisdiction of the court. Mr. O. D. Thomson appeared for plaintiff, and defendant was represented by Mr. Otto Kong Sing.

Both cases were adjourned.

Friday, 18th September.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. H. H. J. GOMPERTZ
(ACTING PUISNE JUDGE).

THE CUSTOM OF THE PORT.

His Lordship delivered judgment in the action in which William Barker and Co. sued the China Express Co., the claim being for the delivery of 10 bags of fire bricks ex the steamer "Indiana," the property of the plaintiffs, which was wrongfully detained by the defendants, or, in the alternative, the value of such bricks, \$120. Mr. G. E. Morrell (of Messrs. Goldring, Barlow and Morrell) appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. P. Sydenham Dixon (of Mr. R. A. Harding's office) for the defendants.

His Lordship said—I have taken time to consider my decision in this case, and am delivering a written judgment because, although the actual amount involved is only the small sum of \$12.50, the question I have to decide is as to the right of forwarding agents to collect fees from consignees in the colony.

The facts of the case are shortly as follows: The plaintiff who trades in Hongkong as William Barker and Company, sent an order on 28th April last to a firm—the Hawley Down Draft Furnace Company—for the supply of ten cases of fire bricks. The vendor delivered the goods to the firm of A. H. Post and Company, freight contractors of New York, and received from them the document which is entitled a through bill of lading, and which is in effect a receipt for the goods and a contract for carriage. This document was signed "A. H. Post and Company" as forwarders, was endorsed in blank by the Hawley Down Company and sent by them to plaintiff, with a bill for the price, which was accepted by the plaintiff. This through bill of lading contained a notice that application for delivery must be made to the China Express Company, Hongkong. On 20th August the defendants, the China Express Company, received a bill of lading comprising these and other goods signed by the New York agents for the U. S. and China and Japan Steamship Line, and endorsed in blank by A. H. Post and Company. On receipt of these documents the defendant company sent to the plaintiff an invoice claiming \$17.50 for their charges in addition to the sum due to Post and Company for freight. Now it appears that the plaintiff had previously notified the defendant company that he would pay no charges to them and that he desired them not to handle any goods which might arrive consigned to him. He returned the invoice stating that he had already desired the defendant company not to handle his goods and he refused to pay the defendant's charges. He then received from the defendants another invoice dated 25th August claiming \$12.50 for charges, and a letter of advice with an endorsement asking if he refused the cargo and stating that a special landing could not be arranged unless they had previous notice. Some correspondence followed and on August 22nd the plaintiff went to the office of the defendant company and tendered the amount of freight claimed by Post and Company, but defendants refused to accept it or to give a delivery order unless their charges were also paid. On August 26th defendants removed the goods from the Kowloon Godowns to their own premises in Hongkong, and defendant's manager, Mr. Hickie, explains that he did this for convenience as he was moving other goods which had come under the same bill of lading and it was cheaper to move them together. Finally, as defendants could not give a delivery order in return for the freight, except on payment of their charges of \$12.50 appears

as to \$5 their agency and as to \$7.50 the cost of bringing the goods over from Kowloon). The plaintiff brought this action for the delivery up of the goods or their value and he asks for the expenses of transferring them back to Kowloon where he required them. Now this being an action of detinue the first question to consider is whether the plaintiff has the property in the goods he claims and a right to possession.

If the property has not passed to him he cannot of course claim the goods themselves, though if they are wrongfully withheld he may have an action on the contract for damages against his vendor. It was urged for the defendant that the property had never passed to the plaintiff; that the China Express Company, as consignees of the bill of lading, had the *jus disponendi* vested in them, and furthermore, that where a bill of lading is taken to the vendors it is decisive of his intention to reserve the *jus disponendi* and prevent the property passing to the vendee. I do not think that I can dispose very shortly of this argument. The question of the passing of property has to be decided on the whole facts of the case, and I have no doubt whatever that when the vendor delivered the goods to the forwarding agent, and sent a through bill of lading endorsed in blank to the plaintiff, the property in the goods then passed to the vendee by the election of the vendor. As to the bill of lading for carriage by sea it was a contract between the forwarding agent and the carriers and its endorsement to the defendant company did no more than transfer to them the rights, not of course right in property possessed by the forwarding agent. Again it was argued for defendants that plaintiff could not bring this action without bringing into Court the amount admitted to be due for freight. The reply is, I think, that if defendants wrongfully refused delivery of the goods they were guilty of conversion and became from that moment tortfeasors. Supposing under the old system of pleading they had in such a case pleaded lien it would be a good replication by plaintiff that tender of an amount sufficient to discharge the lien had been made and it would be wholly unnecessary to allege payment into court. See the form in Bullen and Leake, 3rd edition page 746. I am clear that no payment into court was necessary. The property then being in the plaintiff has he further the right to possession? He has not that right if the goods were subject to a lien for defendants' charges; and I come thus to the main point at issue: Were defendants entitled to insist on payment of their charges before giving a delivery order? Now the contract between plaintiff and his vendors in New York must be taken, I think, to be that the vendors were to select the goods ordered by plaintiff and dispatch them in the proper and customary manner by a carrier selected by the vendor. The purchaser was to pay for the goods by acceptance of the bill drawn on him by the vendor and he was to pay the carrier the sum due under the contract of carriage entered into by the vendor as his agent. What then was the sum due under the contract of carriage? I will go back to the original contract between plaintiff and the Hawley Down Company. It is clear that this was not a F.O.B. contract. Plaintiff ordered the goods on the understanding that he was to pay his acceptance and that the vendors were to provide the goods and arrange for their transit to Hongkong, the costs of this transit being paid by the purchaser. Now, the contract for carriage is contained in the through bill of lading. It is there provided that freight and disbursements are to be paid as per margin, and by clause 2 it is agreed that the forwarders are to have a general lien on the goods for freight, insurance, and charges advanced. What then is the amount which is to be paid by the shipper or the consignee and for which the forwarders are to have a lien on the goods carried? There is a reference to the margin, but as a matter of fact the amount is not entered on the margin of this document. Referring to the memo, from the forwarding firm in New York to defendants, their agents in Hongkong, I find that the total amount to be collected is \$40.44 gold. This total is made up of four items three of which speak for themselves—ocean freight, inland freight, and cartage. The fourth item is one of \$2.50 for forwarding. This, I suppose,

represents the office expenses and commission charged by the New York forwarders. Now this amount the plaintiff was perfectly willing to pay and did in fact tender to the defendants. He says, however, that his liability must be limited to this amount and he objects to being charged anything further by the defendants with whom, as he rightly says, he has no contract and to whom he had previously given notice that he wished to have nothing to do with them. Now the vendors might, I suppose, have put the goods on board themselves, charging the plaintiff their costs of so doing as part of the price and drawn on him for that amount. They would then have sent him the ship's bill of lading direct and he would have been given delivery on payment of the ocean freight. They have not done so, and apparently for several reasons. It would have been necessary themselves to arrange and pay for the inland freight and cartage. Very possibly they did not care to undertake business of this sort; it is quite probable that they have not the necessary staff. Then again it appears that they had several parcels of goods for China and it is suggested that by shipping them all under one bill of lading they might effect an appreciable saving of freight. The arrangement they made was not an unreasonable one and one I must hold, they had the implied authority of plaintiff to effect on his behalf. It comes then to this: that plaintiff has a contract with Post and Company of New York to carry his goods for him to Hongkong, no express sum being stipulated, for they are entitled to charge him a reasonable sum and they have a lien on the goods, for that amount. Are Post and Company limited to the sum of \$40.44 gold mentioned in their memo? The manager of the defendant company points out that by the memo, he is instructed that consignee clearly means the defendants, the consignee of the through bill of lading is to pay all charges at Hongkong. He further states that he has to remit in full to his people in New York the sum collected for their account and that the course of business is for him to recover his charges from the consignee here. Obviously, he is entitled to be paid for his trouble and if he is not entitled to recover here he has a claim against his New York people. Obviously again if Post and Company are entitled to debit the consignee with the Hongkong charges, but their local agents hand over the goods on which they have a lien without recovering the amount due, the local agent has failed in his duty and the principals might refuse to recognise any claim against themselves.

It seems to me that Post and Company are not limited to the amount of \$40.44 gold but are entitled to charge the consignee any sum not unreasonably incurred in the performance of their contract. For this sum they and their agent in Hongkong would have a lien on the goods against the consignee. If, for instance, Post and Company had doubled their forwarding charge in New York, making it five dollars gold instead of \$2.50 gold, and informed the China Express Company that they were to retain their charges out of the amount collected I do not suppose that plaintiff would have made any complaint. It can make no difference that Post and Company have left it to their agent here to make a reasonable charge here and retain it for his own remuneration. Now the defendants claim that plaintiff has to pay them \$12.50 being as to \$5 their charges and commission and as to \$7.50 expenses of removal from Kowloon. The charge of \$5 seems to me reasonable and one they are entitled to make. As to the \$7.50 I think it is different. They have been previously warned by plaintiff not to handle his goods. There was no valid reason to remove goods which might have remained another five days in the godown free of rent. It was attempted to prove for the defence a custom of merchants and agents to incur such charges and debit the consignee of the goods with them. But first of all I cannot find on the evidence that any such custom has been proved as would apply to the circumstances of this case. It would be utterly unreasonable to hold that a person may render services to another which he has been given notice that the other does not require and then charge him with their costs.

I hold then that the charge of \$5 was good and lawful and that defendants' agents for Post and Company had a lien for that amount on the goods. As to the \$7.50 the charge is bad and plaintiff was never liable to pay it. I think the justice of the case may be met by non-suiting the plaintiff, and I direct that each side pay their own costs.

Mr. Morrell—If defendants were not justified in taking the goods from Kowloon I would ask your Lordship to say so in the judgment. They ought to pay to take them back.

His Lordship—If you tender \$5.

Mr. Morrell—I shall certainly tender \$5.

His Lordship—If you had done—

Mr. Morrell—I did not know it was necessary until you gave judgment. We are in the position of having to pay the carriage back owing to their illegal act.

Mr. Dickson—As a matter of fact it was to their advantage to have the goods over here. Plaintiff has a business on this side.

His Lordship—In the circumstances I am not going to make any order.

UNPRECEDENTED DEPRESSION IN THE MALAY STATES.

The Kuala Lumpur, correspondent of the *Straits Times* says the trade depression has made itself felt acutely in certain parts of the Federated Malay States; and in one town in Perak, in particular, the effect has been somewhat appalling. What with the slump in tin and the consequent closing down of numerous mines, the state of affairs, coupled with the decline in trade generally, is almost unprecedented in the annals of Ipoh.

The situation is accentuated further by the tightness of the money market. And the result is that many houses in the town are vacant for want of tenants; and many landlords have been compelled to reduce rentals in order to prevent a wholesale exodus.

It has been said, that there are no longer those signs of activity in the streets which betoken a healthy and thriving business, for everywhere is the depression felt more or less keenly. Bullock cart drivers, who used to carry on a flourishing trade, are now almost on the verge of bankruptcy. Even the poor vegetable hawkers are feeling the pinch of hard times. Those vegetables which are considered luxuries and used to be sold in the markets at fancy prices can now be had for a mere song.

THE DISTURBANCES IN KOREA.

A FINAL INVITATION TO SURRENDER.

By an extra of the Korean "Official Gazette" was issued another Imperial decree concerning the insurgents. It begins (according to the "Seoul Press") with a statement that rioters who have continued to make trouble since the summer of last year are vagrants, with no scruples, degenerating into robbers. True, there were some people who became victims of prejudice and misconception at the momentous period of the late national regeneration, but they failed to take any united and harmonious action. With a view to bringing them to peace without bloodshed, His Majesty has issued more than one edict inviting their surrender. His Majesty regrets to be compelled to admit order is being restored but slowly. Weeds left overgrown prove injurious to good seeds, so the toleration of law-breakers impairs the dignity of a State. The edict gives notice that the surrender of repentant insurgents will be accepted till the end of October, and no longer. This decision is final and His Majesty commands the provincial authorities to take proper measures to make the contents of the present edict widely and thoroughly known among the people.

The Straits Settlements' trade statistics for the quarter ended June 30, show that the value of trade in the Colony was \$23,557,438 less than in the corresponding quarter of 1907.

HONGKONG CRICKET LEAGUE.

The annual meeting of the Hongkong Cricket League was held at Messrs. Shewan Tomes and Co's offices on September 17th. Mr. R. Hancock presided and there were also present Messrs. A. E. Asger (secretary), W. D. Braidwood, J. Mead, P. A. Biden, W. Withers, A. O. Brawn, R. B. Beattie, Tang Chee, Sergeant-Major Power and Sergeant Kay.

The SECRETARY read the notice calling the meeting, and the PRESIDENT proposed the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. WITHERS seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The election of officers resulted in Mr. R. Hancock being re-elected president, Mr. W. D. Braidwood, vice-president, and Mr. A. E. Asger hon. secretary and treasurer.

The VICE PRESIDENT proposed that entries for the League close on the 26th inst.

Mr. MEAD seconded, and the motion was carried.

The PRESIDENT stated that the secretary had received a letter asking that a joint team of the members of the staffs of Messrs. Dodwell & Co. and Messrs. Shewan, Tomes & Co. be allowed to enter for the League. They had not a ground of their own, but would have no difficulty in getting the loan of one. According to rule 7, the President continued, no club had a right to enter the League unless it had a ground of its own.

Mr. BIDEN—A club entered last year that had no ground of its own, but subsequently got one. Why shouldn't this club be allowed to enter?

The PRESIDENT—If they make arrangements to get a ground.

It was agreed that the secretary should write informing the applicant that there would be no objection provided they got the right to use a ground.

An application from the Hongkong Cricket Club asking to be allowed to enter two teams was then considered.

It was proposed by the VICE-PRESIDENT and seconded by Mr. WITHERS that the application be granted under League conditions.

The motion was carried.

The granting of a similar application on behalf of the Kowloon Cricket Club was proposed by the PRESIDENT and seconded by Mr. BEATTIE.

Mr. BRAWN proposed an amendment that the Club be not allowed to enter two teams, for the reason that he did not think it a good thing that each club should be allowed to enter two teams in the same competition. The Hongkong Cricket Club was an exception as it was so much stronger.

Mr. MEAD—If one club is allowed to enter two teams, why not another?

Mr. BRAWN—The Hongkong Club is an exceptional case. If they put in one team it would be too strong.

Mr. BIDEN—It is possible for any club to strengthen itself during the season.

Mr. BRAWN—Yes.

Mr. ASGER—The object of putting in two teams is to give all the members a chance to play.

Mr. BRAWN—My objection is not very strong, and the reason why I raised it was that I do not want the competition to fizzle out. Probably towards the end of the season the Kowloon Club would not be so keen and would scratch a number of games. If they can guarantee that two teams will carry out all their engagements I have no objection.

Mr. MEAD—We don't know whether we can put in two yet. We only want to get permission. I don't see why we should make a precedent of one Club. If one club has the right, so should another.

Mr. BRAWN—My idea is to make the competition as keen as possible.

Mr. MEAD—We will only run the strongest team to win.

Mr. BRAWN—And have an "A" team?

Mr. MEAD—Yes.

Mr. BRAWN—Wouldn't it be a bit of a farce to have an "A" team?

Mr. MEAD—I don't think so. We have five or six officers from a regiment, and if they want to play in the League they will displace old players.

There was no seconder to the amendment and the motion on being put to the meeting was

Mr. BRAWN stated that he had been asked to place before the meeting a letter from the Craigengower committee stating that "should any club or clubs playing in the League scratch one-third or more than one-third of the number of their matches, all those that have been previously played should be considered null and void."

Mr. BIDEN proposed that the number be one-fourth instead of one-third.

Mr. CHEE seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

It was decided to call a special meeting on October 2nd to confirm this resolution. On the same day fixtures will be arranged for the season.

The meeting ended with votes of thanks to the President and Secretary.

THE TRADE DEPRESSION AT TIENTSIN.

A correspondent of the *Peking and Tientsin Times* writes:—

The depressed condition of affairs obtaining here, probably stagnation is a better word, is only partially explained by the four reasons given by your native correspondent. One must look further and deeper into the subject to find the malignant sore which has affected the whole of our little mercantile world, and as an old China hand I trust you will give space to the following remarks in which I believe the true causes are given.

- 1.—A series of indifferent harvests, complicated by floods in some districts, famines in others, and followed by famines in two of the flooded districts (Hunan and Kiangsi.)
- 2.—Overtrading.
- 3.—Steady drain of money by Boxer Indemnity payments.
- 4.—The annual deficit or heavy debit balance caused by the inequality of Exports and Imports.
- 5.—The general dulness (or stagnation) of trade all the world over, due to overmanufacturing and overtrading, intensified by the American financial collapse of last Autumn.
- 6.—The dishonesty of the Chinese dealers in Tientsin.

The truth may as well be written and published openly; no good can come from attempting to hide or disguise it longer. The dream of Chinese honesty has vanished and in its place we have the bare naked fact of dishonesty.

Foreigners are not free from blame in this matter; the struggle to "do business" has resulted in the foreign merchants giving unlimited credit to impecunious, unknown, adventurers, who calling themselves "dealers," opened depôts and then called themselves merchants.

Tientsin only developed into a direct importing centre after the Japan-China war. At that time the Native Banks after vainly striving to re-establish the old order of things which existed before the war took definite action and commenced to restrict credit up to the point of almost abolishing it; then the native dealers finding eager firms ready at hand to meet them in anyway, began buying either from Stock or goods to arrive and—this way predilection lay.

When the goods arrived they were delivered on credit (to men whom the native banks had withdrawn their credits from or firms that they refused to assist). As time went on the goods out on credit increased in volume, like a rolling snowball; unlimited credit was given, "to keep the ball rolling" and when the breath of life ceased, what would you? Trade stopped. The foreign banks called halt! the foreign merchant called pay, pay, pay! the native dealers, sitting calm and serene said; we cannot—and so we are 'between the devil and the deep sea.'

It is an irrefutable fact that the major portion of the goods given on credit to the native dealers has been sold at prices varying from cost to (commonly) twenty-five per cent below, and how are these "originally" impecunious men to pay the merchants for their goods? They have lived and rioted

these past years on the proceeds of the goods on credit: now the day of reckoning has come! Well?

It will take months to get prices up to the actual value of the goods, meanwhile there is nothing to be done but wait patiently, if our creditors, the banks and the Courts will give us grace.

We have reached the limit, and only one safe course is open in the future, cash on delivery, and forget that anyone has ever been so unwise as to say a Chinaman's word is as good as another men's bond—forget it; I say.

Tientsin exports call for no comment; they speak for themselves in empty hongs.

THE NATIVE VIEW.

A native correspondent, connected with a leading hong, in response to a request for information, states that trade is not now good, nor likely to improve, in the Native City.

He gives the four following reasons for this commercial depression, and mentions that an important memorial on the subject has been sent by the Board of Finance to His Excellency the Viceroy. The four reasons for bad trade locally are:—

- 1.—The shortness of money.
- 2.—The low rate of silver.
- 3.—Over-stocking.
- 4.—The unlimited issue of dollar notes by the various native banks not only in the native city but also in the various foreign concessions.

TRADE AND COMMERCE.

A FORMOSAN SUGAR COMPANY.

The prospectus has been circulated in London of the Formosa Sugar and Development Company. The capital is £80,000 divided into 60,000 6 per cent. preference shares of £1 each and 40,000 deferred shares of 10s. each. The purchase price is £55,000 payable in 35,000 preference shares, and the whole of the 40,000 deferred shares, the price including £2,000 for goodwill. The remaining £25,000 of capital is now offered for subscription. The company is formed to acquire the sugar mill and factory hitherto carried on by Messrs. Bain and Company, of Auping, Formosa.

JAPAN'S SILK TRADE.

According to investigations made by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, the exportation of Japanese raw silk during the first half of this year amounted to 5,408,505 kin, representing ¥49,576,292 in value. The figures show an increase of 1,413,014 kin in quantity, but a decrease of ¥10,907,557 in value as against those of the corresponding period of last year.

The exportation of waste silk amounted to 4,192,132 kin representing ¥4,209,160 in value. The figures show a decrease of 981,661 kin in quantity and ¥1,506,619 in value as against those of the corresponding period of last year.

RUBBER CULTIVATION IN FORMOSA.

It appears that the climate of Formosa is most suited for the cultivation of rubber trees, remarks the *Japan Gazette*. In 1906 the Formosan authorities discovered some of the trees growing in the region south of Shinhiku and at once took steps for the cultivation of rubber, constructing experimental stations at Kagi and other places, a number of plants having been imported from abroad. Quite recently the authorities also imported from India and other countries a large number of the trees and seeds of various varieties. The Tokyo Rubber Factory is now receiving a supply of the raw material from Formosa, besides some from other countries, and it is stated that India rubber manufactured from the Formosan trees is of excellent quality. The total quantity of of India rubber consumed in the world amounts to 125,000,000 pounds every year.

CHOLERA IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Down to the 9th inst. 15,917 cases of cholera, and 10,141 deaths have been reported in the Philippines since the first of January. This is exclusive of the city of Manila which fortunately has had very few cases. From the provinces about 250 cases a day continue to be reported.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on Sept. 15th at the Board Room. Mr. C. McI. Messer (president), presided, and there were also present Hon. Mr. W. Chatham, (Vice-President), Messrs. A. Shelton Hooper, H. A. W. Slade, Lau Chu Pak, H. Humphreys, Dr. Pearse, (Medical Officer of Health), and the following officials: Dr. Macfarlane, (Assistant Medical Officer of Health), and A. Gibson (Secretary).

RINDERPEST.

The COLONIAL VETERINARY SURGEON reported under date of the 5th inst. that four cattle out of a lot of 44 imported from Kwong Chau Wan were suffering from rinderpest on arrival. These had been segregated on arrival, and permission given to the dealer to slaughter the healthy cattle for food.

The COLONIAL VETERINARY SURGEON reported on the 6th inst. that a lot of nine cattle imported from Nam Tau were all suffering from rinderpest and he recommended that they be slaughtered. No compensation was payable in respect of those cattle as they were sick on arrival.

Members of the Board minuted their approval of the course adopted.

Mr. GIBSON submitted a further report on the circumstances of the arrival of the second lot of cattle from Nam Tau. In this he pointed out that, as the journey from there to Hongkong only occupied twenty-four hours, it must have been apparent to the most casual dealer that the cattle were sick before they were despatched to Hongkong. The cattle were apparently too sick to be used at home and were sent to Hongkong.

The PRESIDENT stated that he knew from his experience in the New Territory that cattle were sent to Hongkong only when they were too ill to work or too old. They used Hongkong as a dumping ground.

Mr. HOOPER said he would move if necessary the suspension of the standing orders in order to propose a resolution to the effect that a standing committee be appointed to deal with cases of urgency concerning the arrival in the Colony of cattle infected with cattle plague; the committee to have power to order the immediate destruction without reference to a meeting of the Board. He cited the Agricultural Acts in England in support of his argument.

The PRESIDENT said he had much pleasure in seconding the resolution, which he thought would do much to protect the Colony from rinderpest and would also protect the cattle trade between Manila and Hongkong.

The resolution was carried and the President and Mr. Hooper were appointed members of the standing committee.

MOSQUITOES AND MALARIA.

The PRESIDENT in a minute stated that the Crown Solicitor had advised that, if the Board desired to minimise the breeding of anopheles mosquitoes, they should pass bye-laws to that effect.

Mr. SHELTON HOOPER minuted—I don't think any further bye-laws are necessary.

Mr. HUMPHREYS—If bye-laws are necessary, as the Crown Solicitor states, for the Board to exercise powers to compel persons to take steps to prevent the breeding of anopheles mosquitoes, have them by all means. Is it not, however, an established scientific fact that such mosquitoes breed in mountain streams, and not in backyards, open spaces, or thickly populated districts? If this is so, it is a question which can only affect the Sanitary Board to the extent that it is the duty of the Board to impress on the Government the urgent necessity to continue the good work of training nullahs, which has met with such decided and happy results, wherever and whenever possible. Of all the costly expenditure on health measures during the last ten years there is no doubt whatever that that portion which has been expended on anti-malarial measures has been the only portion which has proved of enduring and tangible benefit to the Colony and the only portion which has been worth the money expended on it, and more.

The PRESIDENT remarked that he understood anopheles did not breed in clear or semi-clear water. The Government had spent large sums of money in training nullahs, which Mr. Humphreys acknowledged to have done a great deal

of good, and the only question they had to discuss was whether they should take steps against the owners of gardens which had pools where anopheles mosquitoes were breeding. It was a question of policy, and the Crown Solicitor advised that, if the Board wished to take steps, bye-laws would be necessary.

Mr. SLADE said that, if the Medical Officer of Health advised that ponds and receptacles for water in gardens were liable to breed anopheles, the Board should, he thought, take steps to prevent them. He understood it was easy to stop it by putting a little kerosene on the top of the water.

Mr. HUMPHREYS said that in all the reports he had read it was stated that anopheles were bred in mountain streams, clear streams, or at their affluents, but he had not read that anopheles bred in ponds.

The PRESIDENT pointed out that they would not go to the police court unless they had the larvae to prove their case.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH thought it was rather risky to say that anopheles are bred only in mountain streams. They required clear, or semi-clear water, and it must not be running too strong to wash away the eggs. There was no doubt that the anopheles bred in pools in gardens. He had found that at West Point, and he had no doubt that Dr. Macfarlane had found the same at Kowloon. He did not say that the Board would proceed against the owners of gardens simply because there were pools therein, but they would proceed against them if they were found to be the breeding ground of anopheles.

The PRESIDENT moved that bye-laws be drawn up for the prevention of the breeding of anopheles on private premises.

The Hon. Mr. CHATHAM seconded, and the motion was carried, Messrs. Hooper and Lau Chu Pak voting against it.

CATS AS PLAGUE PREVENTIVES.

The report of the committee appointed to consider the methods for promoting the keeping of cats as a measure for plague prevention, stated:

1. The Committee advise that a Chinese circular be drawn up by the Registrar-General and distributed broadcast. The circular to exhort people to keep cats so as to keep away rats and thereby diminish the plague epidemic.

2. That the Sanitary Inspectors during their periodic inspections inquire if cats are kept, and if not, advise the householders to do so.

3. That the Registrar-General use his influence with the various Chinese institutions and societies and explain to them the benefits to be derived from the keeping of cats and further

4. That the Registrar-General call upon the restaurant and brothel keepers to keep a sufficient number of cats upon their premises.

5. That a circular be issued to godown keepers informing them that godowns, and more specially those storing grain and other food, are as a rule infested with rats and thereby a great source of danger to the public, that a building infested with rats is a nuisance under the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance and that it is their duty to rid their buildings of rats; and that experience has shown that rats in godowns can effectively be kept down by keeping a number of cats on the premises.

6. That the Sanitary Department endeavour to obtain and supply cats and kittens of a good rat catching breed.

7. The Committee are glad to be able to state that the Chinese seem fully to realise the benefit to be derived from keeping cats as a prevention of rat infestation, and that the increase of cats is very noticeable.

The report was signed by the Registrar-General, the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon, the President of the Sanitary Board, and Mr. Lau Chu Pak.

Mr. HOOPER minuted—We certainly cannot prevent owners of cats taking them out of the Colony if they wish.

The PRESIDENT remarked with reference to Mr. Hooper's minute that the Captain Superintendent of Police had informed him that he had only known of one case of a cat being taken out of the Colony.

The VICE-PRESIDENT—I think you must allow them to take their cats out of the Colony, if they wish to do so.

The report was adopted on the motion of the President.

MORTALITY STATISTICS

The death rate for the week ended 29th August was 19.8 for the British and foreign community, as with 14.1 for the corresponding week of last year, and 27.8 for the whole Colony as against 24.1 for the corresponding week of last year.

A QUESTION OF PROCEDURE.

On the subject of latrines in back yards, Mr. SHELTON HOOPER said these papers started from the President himself. They were attached to papers much older. The minute by the President to the Medical Officer of Health stated it had been suggested that no action be taken to remove latrines in old buildings before 1903, provided there is at least 60 square feet, and added that His Excellency desired the opinion of the Board on this matter. The speaker, continuing, said he took a great interest in this subject and served on a committee which recommended that the area be reduced from 100 to 80 square feet. It was now proposed to further reduce it to 60 feet, and he should like to know whose suggestion this was. It might be by a man whose opinion was worth having, or it might be a man whose opinion had no weight at all. They should be informed who made the suggestion, especially as it had elicited from the Governor a desire to know the opinion of the Board. He (Mr. Hooper) would also like to know whether that desire was communicated verbally or in writing.

The VICE-PRESIDENT said the suggestion emanated from himself, and what prompted him to make it was that the Ordinance required that existing houses should have a back yard of 50 square feet, and if an existing house had a back yard of that area it was exempt from providing any further space in the form of back yard. It seemed reasonable in dealing with these latrines which were necessary for the health and sanitary condition of the town, that the matter should be adjusted on that basis.

Mr. HOOPER said he was delighted to learn that the suggestion emanated from so eminent an authority as the Director of Public Works, who had at last recognised the hardship existing in the past. He was quite at one with him, but he would go a little further. He would like to see certain obstructions not included as obstructions, such as dust bins, &c., as was the practice in England. He would like to know whether the President received the communication in writing.

The PRESIDENT was understood to say that the communication came from the Colonial Secretary, addressed to the head of the department.

Mr. HOOPER said he understood all communications to the Board were to be in writing. He wished to call attention to this matter as he thought they were entitled to have those written communications from the Government laid before them. It was a question which would be dealt with later.

The resolution was carried.

EXPORT OF MALWA OPIUM STOPPED.

A *Gazette of India Extraordinary* was published at Calcutta on the 2nd inst. over the signature of the Secretary to the Government of India, Commerce and Industry Department, saying: In exercise of the powers conferred by section 19 of the Sea Customs Act 8, 1878, the Governor General in Council is pleased to prohibit the port of Bombay until 1st January, 1909.

The prohibition is in fulfilment of the condition of Great Britain's agreement with China which restricts the annual opium exports from India to China to a certain fixed number of chests annually. This number has been divided *pro rata* between Bengal opium and Malwa opium, and the exports of the latter have reached the maximum allowed for the year.

There appears to be great distress in the neighbourhood of Pakhoi due to drought followed by inundations. Rice which at this season is usually \$3 a picul is quoted \$5, and discontent is developing.

THE SHAUKIWAN BUILDING COLLAPSE.

CONTRACTOR TO BE TRIED FOR MANSLAUGHTER.

The inquiry concerning the deaths of 17 Chinese, occasioned by the collapse of buildings 24 to 27, the Praya, Shaukiwan, in the typhoon of July 27th, was continued before Mr. J. H. Kemp and a jury at the Magistracy on Sept. 15th.

Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Crown Solicitor, represented the Crown, and Mr. Otto Kong Sing appeared for the owner of the property.

A delay was occasioned by the non-appearance of Mr. Raymond, who sent a telephone message saying he would attend as soon as he was able.

When he arrived Mr. Kemp said—You were not here in time, Mr. Raymond?

Mr. Raymond—You got my telephone message!

Mr. Kemp—I got it after time.

Mr. Raymond—I'm sorry.

Mr. Kemp—You must make it your business to attend in time. You have been keeping the Court, the other jurors and the Crown Solicitor waiting. I don't see why you should come at whatever hour you think convenient and keep us waiting.

Mr. Raymond—I am very sorry.

Mr. Kemp—I shall call upon you to show cause why you should not be fined after the inquiry is over.

Mr. H. E. Haggard, assistant engineer in the Public Works Department, said he joined that Department in February, 1902, since which date he had been engaged on work exclusively under the Building Ordinances. When the plans for these houses were sent in, Mr. Tooker was in charge of the building work, Mr. Crisp, and witness being his assistants. Witness checked the plan put in, and found it was correct with the Ordinance then in force. It was then referred to the Medical Officer of Health to see that it complied with sanitary requirements. On August 20th the plan was acknowledged as being in accordance with the Ordinance. It was Mr. Crisp's duty to inspect the buildings during the course of erection. No record had been found in the office to show whether Mr. Crisp did or did not inspect these houses. A book he kept showed that during the period of building operations he visited Shaukiwan. The notice regarding alteration of the plan passed through witness's hands. It was in accordance with the Ordinance and he altered it. On May 23rd he received an application from the owner for the buildings to be inspected and passed. Witness then inspected them, and passed the buildings on June 2nd, 1903. From his inspection witness could see very little of the back wall. He did not cut into it. There was a departmental order in force at that time that walls should not be cut after buildings were completed. His inspection was a superficial one, but so far as he could see buildings and plans complied with the Ordinance. It was possible for a wall to appear as if properly built and bonded, whereas in fact it was not so. Witness visited these houses last week and examined what was left of the back wall. The lower two floors were of stone and the top one of brick. It was very badly built, there being spaces through the middle and several false headers. Portion of the wall at the rear of house 27, and the whole of 29 appeared to be built dry, there being no mortar in the heart of it. There was very little bonding between the party walls, the external wall and the rear wall. The brick work was badly built. Portions of the stone wall had fallen. The defects in bonding and the weakness of the mortar, which was of an inferior quality, affected the stability of the wall.

Examined by Mr. Kong Sing, witness said he expected a report on the plan from Mr. Crisp. He could not remember any being made, and took it that the construction was proceeding in a proper manner. It was possible for Mr. Crisp to make any kind of report, so long as it was not a bad one, without witness inquiring. If a wall was plastered, witness could not tell whether it was properly bonded or not, but the wall in question was whitewashed.

Mr. T. L. Perkins, executive engineer in the Public Works Department in charge of Building Ordinance work, deposed that he

arrived in the Colony about a year after the houses in question had been passed. He had inspected them several times since the collapse. The back wall, of which the greater portion fell, was 74 feet long and nearly 40 feet high. At intervals of nearly 14 feet the external and party walls of these houses joined. Had the wall been properly built and bonded it was not a wall likely to collapse—it would have been a very substantial structure. The stone work in the wall was exceptionally bad, and the wall was not substantially bonded with the party and external walls. The brickwork was better than the stonework, but it was not bonded any better. The mortar, as the specimen before the Court showed, was about as poor as it could be. That specimen was taken from the heart of the wall. Witness did not notice any mortar clinging to bricks which had fallen from the wall; they were nearly all clean. These defects of construction and material would seriously affect the stability of the wall. As a general rule it was nearly always impossible to detect defects without cutting into a wall.

After the solicitors had addressed the jury, and Mr. Kemp had explained the law to them, they retired to consider their verdict.

After an absence of nearly ten minutes they returned into Court, and the foreman announced the finding to be:—

- (1) That the 17 deaths were due to the fall of the wall.
- (2) That the fall of the wall was due to the bad workmanship of the contractor, Chung Yee.
- (3) That the contractor Chung Yee was guilty of gross negligence, amounting to manslaughter.

On this finding his Worship directed the arrest of Chung Yee, and fixed bail at \$2,000.

Mr. Kemp then asked Mr. Raymond what business detained him.

Mr. Raymond said he missed the Peak tram and was unable to arrive in time. He was sorry that it so happened.

Mr. Kemp did not impose a fine.

JAPAN AND THE GRAND EXHIBITION.

The following communication has been received from the Japanese Consulate, Hongkong:—

"The re-examination and new analysis to which the Japanese Government have found it necessary to subject the project of a Grand Exhibition in 1912, has convinced them that the intervening time—3½ years—is insufficient for the completion of all the various preparations and works which are essential to a successful realization of the undertaking. In revising and re-casting estimates it was made abundantly clear that the Budget already voted would have to be largely augmented in order to carry out the Exhibition on the scale now proposed.

"The industrial energies of Japan being fully employed to meet existing demands, it would be impossible within the allotted time to prepare the exhibits without disturbing the manufacturing activities of the country. Nor is there sufficient time in which to prepare the Exhibition grounds, to erect the Exhibition buildings or to make the necessary arrangements for the suitable accommodation and convenience of visitors. In these circumstances it was deemed best to make the inevitable postponement at this time, rather than delay action until an adjournment would cause inconvenience and be prejudicial to rights and interests. Again, the Japanese Government, following a very commendable custom, desire that the projected Exhibition may be commemorative of a very auspicious event in their history. In 1917 will be celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of the Accession of His Majesty the Emperor. That will be, for all His Japanese Majesty's subjects, a season of a great rejoicing, and it is proposed to take advantage of that happy occasion to inaugurate the Exhibition."

The Manila Merchants Association has invited President Roosevelt to visit the Philippines, which in their letter they describe as "these treasure islands of the East."

THE DANGER OF ELECTRIC WIRES.

A JURY'S ADVICE TO PROPERTY OWNERS.

Before Mr. J. H. Kemp, sitting as coroner, and Messrs. W. Ironside, A. B. Rouse and J. M. S. Rozario, jurors, an inquiry was held at the Magistracy on Tuesday into the cause of death of a coolie named Lai Kwan, who fell from some scaffolding at the Kowloon Godowns and came into contact with a defective electric wire.

Dr. Macfarlane deposed to examining the body of deceased, and finding that death was due to hæmorrhage caused by a rupture spleen.

Tsang Tsan spoke to finding deceased dead at the foot of a ladder behind the godowns. The ladder was a bamboo scaffolding used for hauling up materials. The coolies went up by two ladders on the Praya side of the godowns.

Mr. T. W. Robertson, superintendent engineer of the Wharf and Godown Co., said that between 200 and 300 coolies were employed round the godowns repairing typhoon damage. He told the coolies to take all precautions. The wire in question was a high tension wire put up to light the Star Ferry Wharf, and Godown 51. He understood that the high tension current was 2,000 volts, and that would be sufficient to cause death. The wire was insulated all along, but the insulation might, of course, be faulty. They had no non-insulated wires except telephone wires. The climate here was hard on insulating materials.

Mr. G. L. Hales, in charge of the Kowloon Works of the China Light and Power Co., said he examined the wire in question. He found that at one point in the wire the insulation was damaged, just where the scaffolding was put up. Possibly it was damaged by the baskets as they were being pulled up, or it might have been damaged by falling tiles during the typhoon. There was no means of discovering such defects by tests along the wire unless the wire was touching something at the defective point. He thought the wire had been put up about two years. They had no definite time after which they renewed such wires. He would not touch a wire even if it had been up only a week, as it was not safe. Witness would not like to say within what period he would expect to find an insulation defective through exposure to the weather. It might develop defects very shortly after being put up. Such wires were always guaranteed by the makers. He thought it was generally known that wires were dangerous, even when recently erected. The Company would always cut the current off, if notified of repairs during the day time. Running wires underground would cost perhaps six or seven times as much as running them overhead.

In reply to a juror, witness said they were not advised of these particular repairs. The wires were tested every morning, and the insulation to earth. They could not test for defects such as the one in question, as there was no means unless the defect was touching something.

James Hyde, the clerk of works at the Godowns, said he gave instructions that the workmen were to go up to their work by the Praya side. Such instructions were issued because he had seen men going up the scaffolding.

In answer to a juror, witness said he had no idea that there was any danger to the men from the wires. He was afraid of damage to the wire.

The Jury found that the cause of death was hæmorrhage from a ruptured spleen, caused by a fall which was due to deceased's stepping on a high tension wire which had a defect at that point. They wished to call the attention of property owners to the danger of these high tension electric wires, which, though completely insulated when put up, might develop defects at any time owing to exposure to the weather or to things falling on them. They also wished to express the opinion that property owners and contractors should take special precautions accordingly, and should have the current cut off when any repairs were being done to a building.

JAPAN.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT]

Tokyo, September 2nd.

THE POSTPONEMENT OF THE EXHIBITION.

It is not easy to convey the feelings with which the public have received the Government's decision to postpone the Exhibition of 1912 to 1917—the 50th anniversary of the Emperor's accession. When the postponement rumour was first bruited, only a few weeks ago, it was ridiculed; when the rumour grew persistent the leading papers scouted the idea, but were doubtful; when the Government's final decision was made known the public surprise and chagrin were well represented in the strong resolutions of the City Council of Tokyo telegraphed to you yesterday. Yet the decision was arrived at some days before and had already been communicated to America—a special courtesy extended in view of America's cordial support of the exhibition proposal. Thus the whole affair was cut and dried before the public had any idea of postponement.

AN AFFRONT TO THE METROPOLIS.

The policy of the Government on this matter from the first has been received as an affront to the city of Tokyo, and the city fathers' indignation is visible in the strong resolutions they passed at yesterday's meeting. They declared themselves entirely out of sympathy with the Government's action and resolved not to co-operate with the Government in the preparations for the exhibition of 1917. They demanded the return of the sum of 1,370,000 yen already contributed to the Government as part of the city's share of expense, and they demanded that compensation be paid to those persons in Aoyama who have been dispossessed of land to extend the site of the exhibition. The unanimity with which these resolutions were passed shows the amount of "feeling" behind them, and though many of the city fathers may have been personally interested and keenly disappointed in the postponement, the resolutions certainly represent the feeling of Tokyo, which is one of the greatest disappointments.

BEHIND THE SCENES.

Financial and other disabilities, such as poor hotel accommodation, are put forward officially as reasons for postponement, but it would seem that personal jealousies and friction have something also to do with it. Incredible as it appears, it is stated that Viscount Kaneko, the executive head of the Exhibition, was not informed of the Government's decision to postpone and knew of it very little earlier than the general public. A Cabinet Council arrived at the decision on the 21st ult. and only a day or two ago, Baron Oura, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce and President of the Exhibition Committee, convened a private meeting of the Exhibition Committee and communicated the facts. The Minister's statement and the angry speeches which followed got into the papers. The fat was then in the fire, but why such secrecy?

VISCOUNT KANEKO'S WORK.

Rumour again has it that the executive head was not the man best fitted for such a post and that he was not on good terms with several of those in high places. In the past few months Viscount Kaneko and other executive officials have toured the provinces effectively, making known the proposed extent and scope of the Exhibition and obtaining the enthusiastic support of the people to what is regarded throughout Japan as a great national effort to make a good show before the world. Such a spirit would go far to making a success of any exhibition whatever the financial drawbacks. In Tokyo the executive bureau has already published an exhaustive list of classes and exhibits and a vast amount of detail work has been done. All this effort, of course, will not have been wasted if the exhibition is held five years later, but at present the future is uncertain. Yesterday Viscount Kaneko tendered his resignation.

ATTITUDE OF THE PUBLIC.

There is talk of an indignation meeting in Hibiya Park on the 5th inst., the third anniversary of the Portsmouth peace riots. Naturally, a very large number of people are financially affected by the postponement, especially speculators in land at Aoyama, and the rougher elements among these are sure to make the most of the occasion. An exhibition promoted

by the citizens of Tokyo alone is spoken of among many other proposals and remedies, but in a few days indignation may simmer down considerably and the people become reconciled to facts. In any event, now that the postponement is officially notified abroad the Government cannot reconsider its decision, nor is it at all likely to. An official explanation has been given of the reasons prompting the postponement and weight is laid upon the inadequate railway facilities and accommodations for tourists, while the hope is held out that the Exhibition in 1917 will be an epoch-making affair in the history of Japan.

FOREIGN JOURNALISM IN CHINA.

Recently the number of foreign newspapers at Shanghai was increased by the birth of another journal in English, edited by a Danish journalist and it is reported from home that Mr. F. A. McKenzie, well known in connection with one or two books on Far Eastern affairs, contemplates starting a paper in one of the China ports. Mr. McKenzie is connected with the *Daily Mail*, and it may be that the powerful London journal has got an eye on the China market.

COMMERCIAL SITUATION AND RETRENCHMENT.

The hard times that are now being experienced by all branches of commerce and industry are being impressed on the public in various ways, notably in the matter of economising working expenses. It is no exaggeration to say that never before in the history of foreigners in this country has there been such depression. Little is made public of the difficulties of many firms in Yokohama, Kobe and other ports, and the critical position of those of small capital. But the stereotyped "Nothing doing" can be applied with truth and exactness to many firms and many more individuals, and equally so to Japanese concerns large and small. From the Government departments downwards the policy is retrenchment, and many an official and other employe finds himself out of a job after years of service, unable to complain of injustice for the hard times make his dismissal an economic necessity. The Nippon Yusen Kaisha have just put into operation a drastic scheme of reform, whereby a hundred more or less important agency employes are discharged. Important branches, such as that at Osaka have been reduced in status, and so on; the work that was done last year by so many clerks at the head office of the Tokyo Tramway Co. is now done by half the number. Such measures show which way the wind is blowing. A rather important trust comes into being on the 15th inst. This is an amalgamation of the Dai Nippon, Kobe and Yokohama Sugar Manufacturing Companies, three concerns with a combined subscribed capital of some 40,000,000 yen. The object of the combine is to cheapen the price to the home consumer, enable the trust to meet foreign competition and extend the market abroad.

THE POPULATION OF TOKYO.

At present a difference of about 500,000 exists between the police records of the population of Tokyo and the records in the ward offices. Recently the Census Bureau was ordered to make a new calculation and the police were entrusted with the task of house-to-house visiting. Their appearance here and there with ponderous volumes has caused a good deal of excitement and suspicion among the ignorant, with some amusing results. Therefore the census officials found it necessary to hold meetings in the various wards in order to explain to the people why they are being analysed and bracketed in books like so much stock-in-trade. But only 13,000 people attended 50 of these meetings, and the census authorities have taken the more effective way of calling the journalists together and giving them an "instruction." The scribes were informed that all sorts of wrong ideas prevail in regard to the work of the police. They are not taking the census in order that the people may be further taxed nor that criminals may be hunted down, but in order to ascertain as correctly as possible the name and calling of every soul comprising the city of Tokyo. The police were authorised to ask only a limited number of questions and if they exceeded their powers they were to be reported and would be punished. The official related that the ward offices were being visited daily by hundreds of excited people who, fearing trouble if any contradic-

tions should appear in the statements they made to the police, and the statement every citizen puts on record at the ward office, asked for copies of the registration in order to be on the safe side!

THE VIRTUE OF SELF-CONFIDENCE.

The world has got to look alive if it is to keep the rising young Japanese in his place. The other day a smart young man, just "graduated" from a commercial school, was installed in an English newspaper office as proof reader. As is the custom among this polite people he was taken round the office and introduced right and left. In due course he came to the foreigner in the establishment and expressed great pleasure at having the honour of making his acquaintance. The following conversation ensued:—Foreigner—"Have you been in a newspaper office before?"—Rising Sun, speaking with great confidence—"No Sir. I am a graduate from Okura Commercial School and have much difficulty with the English tongue. I am now writing the book on your prepositions. The English prepositions are very hard to the Japanese. When it is written I shall have the great honour to give you the book!" With this the bright young man bowed and got down. The foreigner sat down too, to think it all out.

KULANGSU (AMOI) MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held at the Board Room, on the 25th August 1908.

Present:—Messrs. N. H. Wallace (Chairman), J. S. Fenwick, Huang Ts'an-chew, W. Kruse, S. Okuyama, W. Wilson, the Health Officer and the Secretary.

The minutes of the last meeting are read, and confirmed.

THE VISIT OF THE AMERICAN FLEET.

A communication was read from the American Consul asking what action the Council were taking regarding the issue of fresh licenses for the sale of liquor previous to and during the visit of the American Fleet to Amoy, at the same time pointing out that as the Chinese Government had declared its intention of supplying beer and temperance drinks to the men of the Fleet free of charge during the reception, he thought the Council would agree with him that there was no necessity for the issue of more licenses than those in force.

The Council was of opinion that the number of licenses for the sale of liquor at present in force in the International Settlement of Kulangsu, was quite sufficient and therefore any applications made to the Council for such licenses would be refused.

An application on behalf of the Chinese Government, from the Acting Deputy Commissioner of Customs in Charge, Amoy, for permission to make certain additions of a temporary nature to the jetty at Ling-tow, for the use of the American Fleet on their approaching visit, was read, and the Secretary was instructed to reply that the Council was prepared to sanction such additions and alterations, provided that no obstruction was caused to the traffic at Ling-tow during the period of construction, and that the present stone jetty and its approaches were left in good order and repair on the removal of the proposed temporary structure.

THE LAND COMMISSION.

The question of the appointment of three foreign gentlemen to serve on the Land Commission was further discussed.

POLICE RETURNS.

The Superintendent of Police reported that the following cases had been dealt with at the Mixed Court since the last meeting:—Summonses. Carrying out a burial without a permit 2; allowing pigs and cattle to stray 4; breach of theatre permit conditions 2; creating a disturbance 1; assault 1; debt 2; illegally removing furniture 1; carrying without a license 1; non-payment of assessment 2; kidnapping 1. Summary Arrests. Assault 4; being in unlawful possession of property 2; theft 1; committing a nuisance 1; on suspicion with stealing &c., 1.

Mr. H. P. Wilkinson, Crown Advocate of Shanghai, has filed a summons against the Editor of the "China Gazette" returnable this week, asking leave to commence proceedings for an alleged libel against Judge Wilby contained in a footnote published on August 4.

THE BOYCOTT OF JAPANESE GOODS AT CANTON.

Some correspondence has recently passed between the Japanese Consul at Canton and H.E. the Viceroy.

The Japanese Consul in his last despatch wrote that the boycott of Japanese goods by the Kwangtung merchants had been constantly in his mind. He had written and discussed the subject with the Viceroy on many occasions and had plainly pointed out to His Excellency the serious effect of it on Japanese trade, and had repeatedly begged His Excellency to give the matter his careful consideration and devise means to stop the boycott and restore the normal course of trade. But, instead of matters improving he found that the local Guilds—Sea Delicacies, Piece Goods and others—have convened public meetings for the purpose of deciding on more stringent measures to be taken in promotion of the boycott of Japanese goods—in fact to start a boycott proper. They have framed stringent regulations and have warned the people that heavy fines will be imposed on those persons or shops who break the rules of the boycott union. A few days ago they publicly announced that an extraordinary meeting would be held on the 16th instant at the Hall of the Self-Government Association to adopt further measures to boycott Japanese merchandize. All notices convening these meetings were published in the local Press. Moreover, in one of the meetings recently held at the Self-Government Association Hall there were distributed to the public at the door of the Hall copies of a circular in which it was stated that sea delicacies contain poison, thereby leading the public to believe that Japanese sea delicacies are poisonous. The attitude of the Kwangtung people in the boycott of Japanese goods has been a great impediment to both Japanese and Chinese commerce, for it was not only detrimental and injurious to Japanese merchants, but was also playing havoc with the trade of the Chinese merchants in the different ports in Japan.

Japan and China, the dispatch goes on to say, have been on peaceful terms for a long time and the very fact that the Kwangtung Province is the only place in China that has instituted and is still carrying on the boycott against Japan, makes it all the more unfortunate that the peace which has hitherto been enjoyed between the people of both countries should be destroyed. It was not only injurious to the public in general but would seriously impair the friendly relations hitherto existing between the two Governments.

The despatch finally requests the Viceroy to consider these statements and take such steps as will lead to a removal of the boycott.

On receipt of the above despatch the Viceroy wrote to the Kwong Chow Prefect as follows:—

"In going through the file of correspondence and papers connected with the Japanese boycott affair, I find that I have issued several proclamations exhorting the people to cease boycotting Japanese goods and to rigidly suppress the publication of boycott literature and to prohibit the circulation of expresses announcing boycott meetings. I further discovered that I also gave instructions to the officials to suppress mass meetings and to prohibit the people from delivering public speeches propagating and spreading the boycott movement.

"I am now in receipt of another despatch from the Japanese Consul stating that the Sea Delicacies and other Guilds have again been circulating expresses convening meetings and urging the people not to purchase or use Japanese goods.

"Steps should be immediately taken to inquire into the matter and to have the movement suppressed. I further order you to immediately assemble the representatives of the Sea Delicacies, Piece Goods and other Guilds and also the gentry and merchants of the Self-Government Association and to inform them that they must obey the proclamations which were issued by me. They must carry on their business in the usual peaceful way and must not incite the people to disturb the public peace—otherwise they are liable to get themselves into serious trouble. At the same time you are also requested to summon the editors of

the local Press to appear before you and to tell them not to publish any articles or notices connected with boycott affairs, as the publication of such things is liable to mislead the public and create idle talk which might eventually lead the people into trouble."

CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

ROBBERIES ON THE CANTON-HANKOW RAILWAY.

September 11th.

Sir Chan Tung Liang Shing, President of the Canton-Hankow Railway Company has courteously requested His Excellency Viceroy Chang to afford the Company protection against robbers who have recently committed many daring robberies at the branch offices, contractors' stations and material stores on the trunk-line of the railway now under construction.

The President in his letter states that rails have been laid up to the district of Ching Yuen; that work has already been commenced in the Ying Tak district. It is necessary for the Company to keep a certain amount of ready cash in the branch offices on the line for purchasing land on the railway route, and it is also necessary to keep large quantities of materials stored in the stations on the line.

The President also mentions that there are foreign civil engineers living at various points along the line. All these branch offices, contractors' stations, material stores and men were indispensable to the Company and, therefore, adequate protection to life and property is needed.

The Company employed about 300 soldiers to guard the line and the President considers this a fairly larger number considering the present length of the line. But daring attacks by robbers on the various stations had become frequent and had caused considerable alarm among the employed. The letter specifies seven daring robberies on different offices and stations on the line during the last two months when many men were seriously wounded by the robbers for offering resistance. Not one of those robbers has yet been arrested and punished by the Magistrates.

He begged the Viceroy to give instructions to the Nam-Hoi, Poon-Yee, Ying Tak and Fa Yuen Magistrates and to the military authorities to station soldiers along the line to afford the necessary protection. In conclusion the President remarked that, unless such extra protection is afforded to the Company, he believes that the construction of the trunk-line will be seriously retarded.

It is reported that the Viceroy has already instructed the above mentioned officials to give the protection required by the Railway Company.

WHOLESALE KIDNAPPING.

Pirates have kidnapped many wealthy merchants and the sons and grandsons of merchants and gentry in several villages on the outskirts of the Hok-Shan city, near Sam-Shui, and are demanding heavy ransoms from the relations of the victims. It is reported that one of the victims, a rich tea merchant named Lan Yee Pong, was released by the pirates a few days ago on receipt of several thousands of dollars.

September 12th.

CHINESE MANUFACTURED FOREIGN GOODS

A short article which appears in this morning's issue of the "Sze Man Po" states that they have received specimens of muoilage, foreign ink and slate pencils manufactured by the Chui Po Hok She, of Canton. It says that these articles are far superior in quality and make to those imported from foreign countries. The paper congratulates the factory on thus showing how another leak in China "tea cup" can be stopped, and how the profit and influence which has hitherto been flowing into foreign countries can be retained in the country. It, therefore, recommends those persons who do not value foreign things to patronize the factory, whose offices are situated in front of the Provincial Treasurer's Yamen. But are there any Chinese who do not value foreign things?

EFFORTS TO PROMOTE MINING.

The Board of Agriculture Labour and Commerce in Peking is urging all Viceroy

Governors and Taotais of Industry in all the Provinces to earnestly invite the merchants to take up mining concessions in their respective provinces. The dispatch, a copy of which has been received by Viceroy Chang, says that the most important thing in the mining business is first to raise a sufficient amount of capital for developing the mine, and next to that comes the honesty of the persons who manage the concern. In order to preserve the influence and power of the nation the people must deepen the channel from whence the riches flow.

Of recent years the reports sent to the Board by the officials of all the Provinces regarding merchants who have applied for mining concessions merely mentioned that the concessionaire is a fairly well-to-do merchant and capable of raising the necessary funds to work the mine. But no particulars were furnished to the Board as the amount of capital actually raised or of the methods proposed to be adopted by concessionaires in developing the mine. In fact, all reports were so vague that there were no means by which they could ascertain the capabilities of any of the concessionaries.

The dispatch requests the Viceroy in future, before granting any mining licenses to merchants to first find out what amount of capital has been raised, the actual sum subscribed by the applicant himself, and what amount by his partners. In the case of joint Chinese and foreign capital the actual amount subscribed by the Chinese and the number of shares taken up by the foreigners must be stated, and similarly with regard to official and merchant capital.

THE CANTON FLOOD FUND BAZAAR.

The Bazaar Committee reported that they have deposited 15,000 taels of the Bazaar Fund in each of the following banks, viz: Kan Tung, Ta Ching, Yuen Fung Yuen, Hip Shing Kin, Chi Shing Shun and Pak Cheun Tung making

A total of	Tae's	90,000
Cash in hand	5,000	
Drafts paid in and which have not matured	14,216	
Outstanding debts, (not collected, about)	3,000	

Total about Taels 112,216

SIX PIRATES CAPTURED.

It is reported that a military officer has captured six of the pirates who took part in the "Fook Chow" and "On Kee" launch piracies. The capture took place in the Fung Koon Districts.

September 14th.

FISHING INDUSTRY.

At a meeting held yesterday the Self Government Association floated a Company called the Seventy-Two Guilds Fishing Industry Company with a capital of \$800,000, to promote the fishing industry in the South China Sea. The business of the company will include fishing, fish curing, the manufacture of fish glue and allied industries.

OPIUM.

In the Imperial Edict issued in the 32nd year of Kwong Sai for the suppression of opium smoking in China it was merely stated that in future licenses must be taken out by shops that deal in prepared opium, and people who smoke opium. Nothing was said about the firms who deal in crude opium and persons who purchase crude opium for their own consumption. A proclamation was issued by the local authorities a few days ago announcing that dealers in crude as well as prepared opium have to take out licenses so as to prevent people from buying raw opium and boiling it themselves.

September 15th.

HARBOUR REGULATIONS IGNORED.

A few days ago the Portuguese Consul communicated to the Viceroy that the Chinese gunboats "Fook Wei" and several other small gunboats had infringed the Macao harbour regulations by leaving the Port after 4 p.m. without complying with the rules of the Port, &c.

Viceroy Chang replied that gunboats of all nationalities have privileges not enjoyed by other ships, and Macao, being a concession granted by the Chinese Government to Portugal, the Portuguese Government had no

jurisdiction over the sea. He requested the Portuguese Consul not to meddle in the matter. The Viceroy's foreign deputies seem to be utterly unfitted by knowledge and experience to tender advice on the laws and customs of foreign ports and will get the authorities into trouble before long, if they are not more careful. The Portuguese Consul will, no doubt, remind them that Portuguese laws must be respected in a Portuguese harbour.

OPIUM CRUSADE.

An institution was established by the Government some two months ago for the treatment of all Civil officials who smoke opium and the Provincial Treasurer was appointed Director of the place. It appears that since the opening of the institute not a single official has applied for admission. Treasurer Woo has been surprised at this and has issued a notification that all civil officials who use the drug must register themselves within ten days or they will be severely punished.

PROTESTING AGAINST AN OLD CUSTOM.

The Canton Pawnbrokers Guild are protesting against the old custom of forcing the pawnshops to use Government money at the exorbitant interest of 30 per cent. per annum. They have petitioned the Nam Hoi Magistrate requesting him to withdraw the Government funds from all the pawnshops or to reduce the rate of interest. The petitioners point out to the Magistrate that reforms are being carried out throughout the Chinese Empire and urge that this old custom should not be overlooked as it is a heavy burden to carry, especially now when business is slack and times are bad.

CRUEL PIRATES.

Last week a junk loaded with a full cargo of foreign sugar was attacked by pirates in broad daylight while on her voyage from Wai-chow to Pok-lo. Over twenty pirates boarded the junk while the crew were towing her along the bank of the East River. The pirates seized the three members of the crew who were on the junk, tied them together in a bunch, fastened heavy weights to the men thus bound and dumped them into the river. The rest of the crew who were on the bank, on discovering the people were pirates, took to their heels and disappeared.

The pirates transhipped the cargo and valuables into several sampans and made off with the booty. The matter was reported to the Ho Yuen Magistrate, but none of the outlaws have been arrested yet.

OFFICIAL SINECURES.

The Likin officials who receive appointments as superintendents of stations all over the Kwangtung Province have been in the habit of leaving their stations in charge of subordinate officials. It is customary for officials who receive these appointments to call at the Viceroy's yamen and report their departure to take up the position. Likin stations are usually on the banks of rivers and creeks up country, isolated from villages and towns. A station would, therefore, be a very dull place for an official who is an old resident of the gay Canton city. Consequently about a month after he is installed in his new position he would hand the management over to one of the trustworthy subordinates and return to Canton, there to enjoy himself until the expiration of his term of office. In some instances where the station is quite close to Canton he would return on the same day after taking over the seals and accounts from his predecessor. Recently while His Excellency the Viceroy was returning an official call, he met a superintendent of a Likin station who had called on him a fortnight ago announcing his departure to take up his post. The delinquent official was so frightened when his chair came into contact with the Viceroy's chair that he did not know what to do and almost fell out of his chair. His Excellency at once recognised the man and on the following day summoned him to his yamen and reprimanded him very severely for taking French leave. The Viceroy has issued a notification that in future no Likin officials will be allowed to leave their stations without first obtaining permission from him.

September 16th.

OFFICIAL CALL.

Mons. Merel the Roman Catholic Bishop of Canton, returned from Europe last month. On Monday the Viceroy, accompanied by Taotais

Wei Han and Wen Tsung Yao, called on the Bishop at the Catholic Cathedral in the City where they had a most amicable interview. At the invitation of Bishop Merel, His Excellency the Viceroy inspected the Sacred Heart College on the Cathedral premises. His Excellency and the officials were conducted by the Rev. Frère Fourquet, Superintendent of the College, through the institution. The Viceroy was very pleased with the good discipline of the students and praised the good order that prevailed and also the excellent methods adopted in educating the students, who are all Chinese.

After the tour of inspection refreshments were served and photographs of the whole party were taken. The Viceroy and the officials then left.

ALLEGED PIRATES RELEASED.

The other day the local authorities here received telegraphic information from Hongkong that a gang of pirates were proceeding to Canton by the s.s. "Paul Beau." Instructions were given to Colonel Lui Chan Hoi of the Shamen Guard to have them arrested on the arrival of the steamer. Colonel Lui dispatched Captain Chan with a body of soldiers to await the arrival of the s.s. "Paul Beau" on the morning of the 14th instant and arrest the pirates.

It is said that previous to the arrival of the vessel Captain Chan had an interview with the French Consul who gave the former a letter addressed to the captain of the s.s. "Paul Beau."

When the s.s. "Paul Beau" arrived Captain Chan and his braves all went on board and arrested seven or eight alleged pirates who were passengers on the vessel.

In the meantime the Captain of the vessel opened the Consul's letter and on reading it discovered that the Consul's instructions were not to permit the Chinese officer and his soldiers to arrest the pirates on board of the steamer, but they could arrest them as soon as the men got into sampans to go ashore. The Captain of the steamer immediately informed the Chinese Officer of the contents of the Consul's letter and refused to permit him to take the prisoners away. At the same time he wrote a letter informing the Consul as to what had already occurred.

The Vice-Consul went on board the s.s. "Paul Beau" and asked the Chinese Officer and his braves to leave the vessel at once and ordered the prisoners to be released.

It is said that a few of the pirates returned to Hongkong by the same vessel and that many of them escaped ashore.

This is another instance of the ignorance of international law shown by the Chinese authorities.

There is great excitement amongst the officials here over the affair.

MONEY FOR REFORMS IN TIBET.

Some time ago the Board of Revenue at Peking instructed the Viceroy and Governors of several Provinces to raise funds to meet the current expenses for carrying out certain reforms in Tibet.

The amount fixed by the Central Government to be contributed by the Kwangtung Province (over 200,000 taels) has not been sent yet. Minister Chew at Tibet has recently cabled requesting the Canton Authorities to forward their share as soon as possible as he is in urgent need of funds to carry out the year's programme of reforms.

The telegram also requests Taotai Wen the newly appointed Minister of Tibet, to proceed there and relieve him without further delay.

The Viceroy has instructed Taotai Wen to resign all the appointments which he is now holding and to devote his time to raise the necessary funds and make preparations to take up the new appointment at an early date.

Why not train up young women in Siam to fill positions in Government offices and business establishments as in other countries, is a question that is frequently asked, says the "Siam Free Press" in a leading article. Siamese women have always been noted for their business capacity in every sphere of life, and if they once be given a chance to fill positions, as typists, telegraphists, copyists, accountants and so forth, in government and other departments, they would soon give a satisfactory account of themselves.

COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

RICE.

HONGKONG, 19th September.—There is only a slight change in the condition of the market.

Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary	\$4.70	to	\$4.75
" Round, Good quality ...	5.00	to	5.05
" Long	5.00	to	5.10
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2 ...	4.70	to	4.80
" Garden, " No. 1 ...	4.80	to	4.85
" White,	4.95	to	5.00
" Fine Cargo	5.50	to	5.60

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, Sept. 17th.—We beg to continue our advices of the 3rd instant; since when the movements in the various Opium markets have been as follows:—

	Malwa.	Patna.	Benares.	Persian.
Stocks on the 3rd Sept., 1908—	2,303	2,388	808	1,051
Sept. 3rd Imports per Namsang ..	—	200	180	—
" 11th " " Choyang ..	—	50	75	—
" 14th " " P. de la Chotat ..	—	200	—	—
" 16th " " Oriental ..	380	—	—	85
	2,683	2,838	1,163	1,088
Less Exports to Shanghai ..	80	466	49	—
Less Exports to East and West Coast Ports including Local Consumption for the fortnight ..	190	627	261	82

Estimated Stocks this day .. 2,393 1,745 853 1,004

Bengal.—A further rise has taken place owing to an active demand and prices have advanced to \$1,145 for Patna \$1,090 for old Benares and \$1,100 for new. The Market is quiet at the close.

Malwa.—We have to record a substantial advance in price and a good demand.

New 1,800 |

2/3 years old 1,150 |

4/5 " 1,160 |

Persian.—Superior long cakes have found buyers at \$970/915. Other descriptions are quoted at \$880/900 with a very small demand.

COAL.

HONGKONG, Sept. 18th.—The arrivals of coal since the 3rd Sept. amounted to 29,720 tons of Japanese, 1,800 tons of Labuan and 4,800 tons of Australian. The coal expected is 50,000 tons of Japan coal. There have been no sales of any importance in the interval but the market is firmer. Quotations according to Messrs. Hughes and Hough's circular are as follows:—

Cardiff	\$— to \$—	ex-ship, nominal.
Australian	\$12.00	ex-ship, nominal.
Yubari Lump	\$12.00	ex-ship, nominal.
Miki Lump	\$10.50 to \$11.00	ex-ship, nominal.
Moji Lump	\$7.75 to \$9.50	ex-ship, steady.
Moji Unscreened	\$6.00 to \$8.00	ex-ship, steady.
Akaike Lump	\$8.75 to \$9.00	ex-ship, sellers.
Labuan Lump	\$9.00	ex-ship, sellers.

YARN.

HONGKONG—Mr. P. Eduljee, in his Report dated 11th September, states:—A brisk demand has been experienced throughout the past fortnight, both for spot cargo and "to arrive," but the aggregate of sales shows no commensurate increase as buyers have based their ideas below those of sellers. However at the close an improvement is noticeable, and with a better outlook for the coming rice crop confidence is slowly returning, and in the near future a good trade with steady prices is generally looked for. Comparatively heavy arrivals have taken place during the interval, but the market was well able to withstand the addition to our stock, as the quantity on hand run down to a very small compass, and comprised principally unsaleable goods. Values have appreciated 50 cents to \$2 per bale in which all counts participate, No. 10s and 20s showing the larger advance. The market closes firm. Bombay is reported strong. Good rain continues to fall in almost all parts of India—too much having been received in some districts—and the latest official forecast prophesies the continuance of favourable conditions. Sales of the interval aggregate 9,535 bales, arrivals amount to 10,635 bales, unsold stock estimated at 11,000 and sold but uncleared yarn in godowns and to arrive about 28,000 bales. Local Manufacture.—There is no change in the continued quietness of these threads. At the twelfth annual general meeting of the shareholders of the local mill, to be held on the 23th instant, the Directors will recommend a dividend of 5 per cent. and

carry forward the sum of \$9,553.85. Japanese Yarn:—Nothing doing. Raw Cotton:—The demand for Indian descriptions has temporarily subsided and no business is reported. New crop China cotton has arrived and first shipments aggregating about 275 bales (small) have been readily taken up at \$31 to \$29. The cotton is of better quality than last year's yield, being whiter and free of seed and yellow leaf. Estimated stocks: 250 bales Indian. Quotations are \$21 to \$23½ Indian and \$24 to \$28½ China. Exchange on India after slight fluctuations closes to-day at Rs. 133½ for T/T and Rs. 134 for Post. On Shanghai 75½ and on Japan 87½. The under-noted business in imported and local spinnings is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ended the 5th instant, viz:—Indian:—Total sales about 3,000 bales at fully one Tael lower prices, market closing weak and declining. Estimated stock about 35,000 bales. Japanese:—Market weak; total sales about 700 bales on the basis of Tls. 92½ to 97½ for No. 16s at Tls. 101 to 104 for No. 20s. Local:—A small sale of 300 bales No. 16s at Tls. 93 has been reported.

PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co.'s Report on the Shanghai Piece Goods Trade, dated Shanghai 11th September 1908, states:—There is, but little of interest to write about the market during the past week, and it is more to keep abreast of statistics, and the Auctions that this issue is published. The Mid-Autumn settling day takes place to-morrow, which is looked upon as a holiday by the Foreign Banks and the Custom House, and on this account there is practically, no inclination on the part of the Native dealers to do business. At the same, there has been some enquiry, but at such low prices that no importer will listen to them. Crop estimates of the country, still continue most favourable, and latest advices from Manchuria estimate this year's Bean crop at 20% over last year's. Should this prove correct, it is only to be hoped the benefits derived therefrom will come to this market, and not be diverted through various channels to other places. Already there appears to be a somewhat better feeling in the Northern markets and the Newchwang dealers have been buying Indian yarn from importers and some American goods from Native holders. The latter are said to have accepted lower rates, when compared with other holders, they having suddenly shown an inclination to realize. There has also some enquiry from Tientsin, but beyond a few purchases of Indian yarns we have not heard of any business. In the meantime clearances have continued quite fair, i.e. they have shown no signs of falling off, and we should like to see the Native, after the settlement, give some indication of their ideas regarding the Spring business. The position is however, so problematical it is difficult to say anything about it. The Manchester market is no doubt firmer in tone, at the close than it was in the earlier part of the week, and enquires thence for counter offers are not so numerous as they have been lately. The most recent telegrams would also indicate that dyers have still orders in their books to run off, as of late they have been asking for more distant delivery. Cotton in Liverpool is now 5.32d. for Mid-Orleans and Egyptians remain unchanged at the previous quotation of 7½d. The tone of the New York market, is also firmer as rates are now 8.45 cents, 8.46 cents and 8.50 cents for October, December and January option respectively, as against last week's quotations of 8.52 cents, 8.42 cents and 8.29 cents for the same option. Prices are also expected to keep steady in the immediate future. The Yarn market has suddenly recovered during the past few days, owing to an enquiry arising from the Northern markets, of which the principal buyer has been Newchwang. Other markets have bought sparingly. There has been more doing in Japanese and Local Spinings, clearances of which have kept well up to the mark, and prospects of the coming crop continue favourable as can be seen from regular fall in quotations for forward delivery. At the Yuen Fong Auction on 3rd instant, the lighter weights and a few 10-lbs. Grey Shirtings showed slight advances, but the heavier qualities in many instances showed decline in prices. Taken all round White Shirtings are better, but an improvement is still wanted, for Turkey Rods while prices for Black Cotton Italians were higher. At the E-wo Auction this morning prices for Light Weights and 8.4lbs. Grey Shirtings were lower, only two qualities showing any advances, and the same can almost be said about 10-lbs. Grey Shirtings. In the Heavier makes and White Shirtings prices are rather higher. In Woollens the firmer tendency, mentioned in our last issue was not maintained, and most of the prices are rather lower,

HONGKONG PRICES CURRENT.

HONGKONG, 19th September, 1908.

COTTON PIECE GOODS—		
Grey Shirtings—6lbs. piece	\$ —	\$ —
7 lbs.	2.25 to	2.50
8.4 lbs.	3.10 to	4.10
10 lbs.	4.00 to	5.40
White Shirtings—54/56 reed ..	2.65 to	3.50
58/60 ..	3.50 to	5.90
64/66 ..	6.00 to	6.75
Fine ..	8.00 to	9.25
Book-folds ..	5.50 to	6.00
Victoria Lawns—12 yards ..	0.60 to	1.75
T-Cloths—6 lbs. (32 in.) Ord'y ..	2.00 to	2.20
7 lbs. ..	2.30 to	2.35
6 lbs. "Mexicans" ..	—	—
7 lbs. ..	3.35 to	3.85
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.) ..	3.25 to	4.15
Drills, English—40 yds., 13½ to 14 lbs. }	4.50 to	5.20
FANCY COTTONS—		
Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 6 lbs. piece	\$1.85 to	\$4.25
Brocades—Dyed yard	0.11 to	14.75
Chinese—Assorted ..	0.09 to	0.25
Velvets—Black, 22 in., ..	0.27 to	0.55
Velveteens—18 in., ..	0.50 to	0.27
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk doz.	0.50 to	2.00
WOOLLENS—		
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops .. yard	\$0.70 to	\$2.00
German, ..	0.50 to	0.65
Habit, Medium & Broad Cloths ..	1.95 to	2.00
Long Ells—Scarlet, 7-9 lbs. piece	8.25 to	9.50
Assorted ..	7.35 to	9.60
Camlets—Assorted ..	12.00 to	30.00
Lastings—30 yds. 31 inches }	13.50 to	21.00
Assorted ..	—	—
Orleans—Plain ..	9.50 to	11.00
Blankets—8 to 12 lbs.	0.60 to	1.40
RAW COTTON—		
Bombay .. picul	\$23.00 to	\$23.50
Bengal (New), Rangoon ..	—	—
and Dacca ..	23.00 to	24.50
Shanghai and Japanese ..	26.00 to	27.00
Tungchow and Ningpo ..	26.00 to	28.00
METALS—		
Iron—Nail Rod .. picul	\$ 4.10	
Square, Flat, Round Bar (Eng.) ..	4.05	
Swedish Bar ..	4.15	
Small Round Rod ..	4.60	
Hoop, ½ to 1½ in., ..	5.60	
Wire, 16/25 oz., ..	9.20	
Old Wire Rope ..	3.00	
Lead—L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop ..	—	
Australian ..	8.05 to	8.90
Yellow Metal—Muntz 14-28 oz. ..	9.00	
Vivian's, 16/32 oz., ..	39.00	
Elliot's, 16/32 oz., ..	39.00	
Tin, ..	84.00	
Tin-Plates, .. box	8.00	
Steel .. cwt. case	—	
MISCELLANEOUS—		
Quicksilver, .. picul	162.00 to	—
Window Glass, .. box	4.50	
Kerosene Oil, .. case	—	
Saltpetre, No. 1 .. picul	\$11.00 to	\$11.70
Do. No. 2 ..	10.40 to	10.60
Do. No. 3 ..	9.50 to	9.80
WHEATEN FLOUR—		
Dayton, per bag of 50 lbs. gross	\$2.36	
Choice ..	2.34	
White Lily ..	2.34	
Mtjon ..	2.34	
Morning Glorg ..	2.36	
White Fawn ..	2.34	
Cow ..	2.34	
Cheese ..	2.32	
T.H.L.	2.32	
Stove ..	2.32	
Gexcomb ..	3.05	
Sperry's XXX ..	2.60	
Pioneer ..	2.80	
Charm ..	2.30	
Junk ..	2.30	
Dog ..	2.30	
Cash ..	2.30	
Starr ..	2.55	
Peerless ..	2.21	
Kilin ..	2.21	
White Lily ..	2.27	
White Fawn ..	2.27	
Blue Ribbon ..	2.30	
Reardon ..	2.30	
White Rose ..	2.31	
Choice ..	2.27	
Serene Sky ..	2.23	
Stove ..	2.25	
Dayton ..	2.32	
Gluten ..	2.24	
Lobston ..	2.24	
Fairy Peach ..	2.23	
The Boss ..	2.23	

EXPORTS:—

TEA.

HANKOW, Sept. 10th.—Business reported since the 4th ult., is as under:—

	1908.	1907.
Settlements ...	1-Chests. 354	1-Chests. 2,881

Consisting of the following Teas:—

	1-Chests.	per picul
Oopacks .. 167	10.50	—
Oonams .. 187	14.75	—

The following are Statistics at date compared with those of 13th September, 1907:—

	1908.	1907.
HANKOW TEA 1-Chests.	1-Chests.	1-Chests.
Settlements ...	535,557	484,187
Shipments to Shanghai	—	—
on Native account ...	50,000	4,900
Stock ...	53,807	29,448

Arrivals ...	689,364	518,535
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	1908.	1907.
KIUKIANG TEA 1-Chests.	1-Chests.	1-Chests.
Settlements ...	180,853	181,558
Shipments to Shanghai	—	—
on Native account ...	15,835	—
Stock ...	5,024	15,827

Arrivals ...	201,812	197,385
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Comparative Quotations per picul are as under:—

	1908.	1907.
Ningchows Tls. 15.50 at 100.00	Tls. 16.80 at 100.00	
Khemuns ..	21.00 " 67.00	18.50 " 74.00
Hohows ..	19.00 " 24.50	— " —
Kutoans ..	22.50 " 27.00	21.50 " 25.50
Wenchows ..	19.50 " 21.00	— " —
Oopacks ..	10.25 " 26.00	11.75 " 27.00
Oonams ..	9.25 " 28.00	11.00 " 28.00
Oonfaas ..	12.00 " 36.00	11.60 " 35.75
Seangtams ..	8.75 " 18.50	11.40 " 17.30
Ichangs ..	22.00 " 35.00	25.00 " 78.00

The export to 7th ultimo, as per Customs Returns stands thus:

	Hankow.	Kiukiang.
Season 1908-1909 .. lbs.	14,253,356	4,478,199
" 1907-1908 ..	13,284,335	5,503,793
" 1906-1907 ..	16,033,380	5,604,169

	1908/9	1907/8	1906/7
Via Shanghai,	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
To Great Britain ..	2,173,600	2,384,437	2,944,219
" U. S. & Canada ..	5,746,625	3,649,051	2,087,704
" Continent ..	2,595,144	2,221,917	1,842,167
" Russia via North ..	105,443	9,511	156,805
" Russia in Europe, ..	618,956	5,520,253	8,918,853
" Shanghai ..	6,786,201	2,768,421	5,619,281
Direct, 1908,			
U. S.	472,576	lbs.	
Gr. Britain ..	3,793,659	"	
Continent ..	867,332	"	
Russia in Europe ..	5,433,132	"	
Russia in Asia ..	22,324,928	"	
Direct, 1907, ..			
U. S.	4,380	lbs.	
Gr. Britain ..	156,990	lbs.	

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 19th September:—There is no market. Quotations are \$86.00 to \$87.00.

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS

Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg & Co.'s Fortnightly Produce Circular, dated Shanghai, 9th September, states:—Gallnuts.—A fair business is being done. Crop prospects are Good. Cowhides.—Market closed. Feathers.—Supplies small. The state of the home markets is satisfactory. Cotton.—Home markets have been buying on a small scale. Prices continue weak, owing to continued good crop reports. Tallow.—The season has opened in a small way. Dealers claim that the supply will only be a moderate one. Sesamum-seed.—The season has opened and a fair business in Yellow Seed is being done. Market steady. Strawbraid.—Old stocks are practically cleared up and goods in new straw are expected shortly. There is very little demand at present but prices in general are firm. White Loyeh and Quanchow are still in some demand and the very high prices are maintained. Wool.—Sheeps.—A few thousand Piculs of Szechuen are on the market, but buyers show little interest. Sellers are firm. Wood Oil.—Market quiet. Usual supplies are expected. Antimony.—A good demand from home, Although it is said that stocks are large, prices are very steady.

HANKOW, Sept. 10th.—The prices quoted are for the net shipping weight excluding cost of packing for export:—

	Per picul
Cowhides, best selected	Tls. —
Do. seconds	" —
Buffalo hides, best selected	" —
Goatskins, untanned, chiefly white colour	" —
Buffalo Horns, average 3 lbs. each	" —
White China Grass, Wuchang and/or Poochi	11.00
White China Grass, Sinshan and/or Chayu	10.00
Green China Grass, Szechuen	" —
Jute	3.00
White Vegetable Tallow, Kinchow	11.40
White Vegetable Tallow, Pingchow and/or Macheng	10.00
White Vegetable Tallow, Mongyu	" —
Green Vegetable Tallow, Kiyu	" —
Animal Tallow	12.30
Gallnuts, usual shape	13.00
Gallnuts, plum do.	13.25
Tobacco, Tingchow	" —
Tobacco, Woukang	" —
Black Bristles, Riffings	" —
Feathers, grey and/or white Wild Duck	" —
Turmeric	" —
Sesamum Seed	5.75
Sesamum Seed Oil	" —
Wood Oil	8.90
Tea Oil	" —

Per M. M. steamer *L'Europe Australien*, sailed on 15th September, 1908. For St. Etienne:—30 balles soie. For New York:—70 balles soie. For Lyon:—190 balles soie. For Marseille:—150 balles soie, 400 balles dechets de soie, 19 caisses plumes, 10 caisses cheveux, 8 caisses divers, 1 caisse chapeaux. For Havre:—13 caisses porcelaine. For Toulouse:—2 caisses broderies. Tumatave:—12 colis provisions. For Djibouti:—22 colis divers. For Bagdad:—4 caisses camphre. For Zanzibar:—10 caisses divers. For Londres:—8 caisses chapeaux.

HONGKONG SHARE QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 18th September, 1908.—The improved demand for investment purposes reported in our last has continued throughout the past week, and the comparatively small amount of actual business transacted during the interval is still accounted for current rates. In many cases rates show an improvement on values last reported, and the market generally closes firm. Barsilver in London is today quoted at 24½d. and sterling T.T. at 1/9½. The T.T. rate on Shanghai is unchanged at 75½.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have been in much favour, and a considerable business has been booked at \$770 and \$772½, the market closing with small buyers at the former rate. London is unchanged during the intervals at £80. Nationals continue in request at £51½.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have advanced under an unsatisfied demand, and after sales at \$760 and \$765 can probably be placed now at \$770. China Traders and Yangtzes are unchanged, but North China have improved locally to Tls. 82 buyers. Cantons remain on offer at \$215.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong have been done at the improved rate of \$320, and more shares can be placed. Chinas after a sale from the North at \$93 are wanted to a small extent at \$93½.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao are reported at \$28½ and \$28½, market closing firm with buyers at the higher rate. Star Ferries (new) have been booked at \$15, and Shell Transports at the advanced rate of 45s. There are sellers of Douglases at \$37.

REFINERIES.—Quotations are unchanged and there is no business to report.

MINING.—Raubs have been booked at \$7½ at which there are further sellers. Chinese Engineering is in request at Tls. 16½.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks are weak with sellers at \$96; and Shanghai Docks at Tls. 84 in the north. Hongkong & Kowloon Godowns have again been done at \$49, and are wanted. There are sellers in the North of Hongkew Wharves at Tls. 165.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—The only business to report in the section is a small sale of Humphreys' Estate at \$94. Other quotations are unchanged.

COTTON MILLS.—Ewos have declined to Tls. 58 and Internationals to Tls. 62. Hongkongs are steady but without reported business at \$11.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Dairy Farms have been booked at \$20 and are wanted. Cements have been the medium of a fair business at \$10, and more shares can probably be placed at the rate. Electrics have improved to \$18, and Ropes to \$25, both with buyers. China Providents continue in request at \$94, but no shares are procurable under \$94.

Quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS
Alhambra	Pa. 200	Nominal
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai	\$125	\$770
National B. of China	26	\$51, buyers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	12s. 6d.	\$74, buyers
China-Borneo Co.	\$12	\$104, sellers
China Light & P. Co.	{ \$10 } { \$1 }	{ \$64, sellers \$94, buyers
China Provident	\$10	\$94, buyers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 50	Tls. 59
Hongkong	\$10	\$11
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 62
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 85
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 242½
Dairy Farm	\$8	\$20, buyers
Docks & Wharves—		
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$49
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$98, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$64	\$94, sellers
Shanghai Dock and Eng. Co., Ltd.	Tls. 100	Tls. 84
S'hai & H. Wharf	Tls. 100	Tls. 167½
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$12, sellers
G. Island Cement	\$10	\$10, sales & sellers
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$185
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$18, buyers
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50	\$77, x.d.
Hongkong Ice Co.	\$25	\$231
H. K. Milling Co., Ltd.	\$100	Nominal
Hongkong Rope Co.	\$10	\$25
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$215, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$98½, buyers
China Traders	\$25	\$88½
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$320, buyers
North China	25	Tls. 82, buyers
Union	\$100	\$765, buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$160
Land and Buildings—		
H'kong Land Invest.	\$100	\$94, sellers
Humphreys' Estate	\$10	\$94, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$27, sellers
Shanghai Land	Tls. 50	Tls. 117
West Point Building	\$50	\$48
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$580, buyers
Raubs	18/10	\$74, sales & sel.
Peak Tramways	{ \$10 } { \$1 }	{ \$14 \$2
Philippine Co.	\$10	\$3, sellers
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$130, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$22
Steamship Companies		
China and Manila	\$25	\$15, sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$37, sellers
H., Canton & M.	\$15	\$28½, buyers
Indo-China S. N. Co.	25	{ \$35 \$20
Shell Transport Co.	21	44/- sales & buy.
Star Ferry	\$10	\$24½
Do. New	\$5	\$16, sales & buyers
South China M. Post.	\$25	\$24, buyers
Steam Laundry Co.	\$5	\$5½
Stores & Dispensaries.		
Campbell, M. & Co.	\$10	\$9, sellers
Powell & Co., Wm.	\$10	\$5
Watkins	\$10	\$8, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$94, buyers
Wiemann Ltd.	\$100	\$150
United Asbestos	\$4	\$12½
Do. Founders	\$10	\$2½
Union Waterboat Co.	\$10	\$104, sellers

SHANGHAI SHARE QUOTATIONS.

11th September, 1908.

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATION.
Banks:—		
Hongkong & S'hai	\$125	\$785, buyers
National of China	26	\$51, buyers
Russo-Chinese	{ R187½ } { T125 }	{ Tls. 175, sellers
Insurance:—		
Union Society C'ron	\$100	\$790, sellers
North-China	25	Tls. 80, buyers
Yangtze Assocn.	\$60	\$167½, sellers
Canton	\$50	\$225, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$812½, buyers
China Fire	\$20	\$92, buyers
Shipping:—		
Indo-China { pref. } { def. }	{ 210 } { 21 }	{ Tls. 28½, buyers Tls. 13½, buyers
Shell Trans. { ord. }	21	\$22.50, sellers
& Trading { pref. }	10	\$29.10, sellers
S'hai Tug & { ord. }	T50	Tls. 47, sellers
Lighter ... { pref. }	T50	Tls. 51, buyers
Taku Tug & Lighter	T50	Tls. 48, sellers
Kochien Transportation & Tow Boat	T50	Tls. 50, sellers
Docks & Wharves:—		
S'hai Dock & Eng.	T100	Tls. 85, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$105, sellers
S. & H'kew Wharf	T100	Tls. 167½, sellers
H. K'loon W. & G.	\$50	\$47, sellers
Yangtze	T100	Tls. 217½, sellers
Sugar Companies:—		
Perak Cultivation	T50	Tls. 90, sellers
China Refining	\$100	\$132½, sellers
Mining:—		
Raub Australian	{ 21 } { 18/10 }	{ \$8, sellers
Chinese Eng. & Min.	21	Tls. 16, sellers
Lands:—		
S'hai Investment	T50	Tls. 116½, sellers
H'kong Investment	\$100	\$99, sellers
Humphreys' Estate	\$10	\$104, sellers
Weihaiwei	T25	\$9, sellers
China	T50	Tls. 50, sellers
Anglo-French	T100	Tls. 100½, sellers
Cotton:—		
Ewo	T50	Tls. 59, buyers
International	T75	Tls. 63, sellers
Laou Kung Mow	T100	Tls. 85, sellers
Soy Chee	T500	Tls. 242½, sellers
H'kong C. S. W. D.	\$10	\$9, buyers
Industrial:—		
Shanghai Gas	T50	Tls. 115, buyers
Major Brothers	T50	Tls. 51½, sellers
Shanghai Ice	T25	Tls. 14, sellers
China Flour Mill	T50	Tls. 45, sellers
S'hai Pulp & Paper	T100	Tls. 54, buyers
Green Is. Cement	\$10	\$11, sellers
Maatschappij, &c., in Langkat	Gs. 100	Tls. 600, sellers
Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco	T20	Tls. 93, sellers
S'hai Waterworks	220	Tls. 395, ex div.
Anglo-Ger. Brewery	100	\$85, buyers
A. Butler Cement, Tile Works	50	\$30, sellers
Kalumpang Rubber	50	Tls. 54, buyers
Eastern Fibre	10	nominal
Shanghai Electric Construction	210	\$29.00, sellers
Miscellaneous:—		
Hall & Holtz	\$20	\$20, buyers
A. Llewellyn	\$60	\$43, buyers
A. S. Watson & Co.	\$10	\$11½, sellers
Central Ordinary	\$15	\$11½, sales
Central Founders	\$15	\$400, buyers
S. Moutrie & Co.	\$50	\$47, sellers
Weeks & Co.	\$20	\$22, buyers
Astor House Hotel	\$25	\$17, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$98, sellers
Hotel des Colonies	T12.50	Tls. 6, buyers
Tsingtao Hotel	\$100	nominal
Lane, Crawford & Co.	100	\$150, sellers
Dunning & Co.	50	\$47½, sellers
S'hai Horse Bazaar	T50	Tls. 42½, sales
S'hai Mercury	T50	Tls. 50, sellers
S'hai Mutual Tele.	T50	Tls. 59, sellers
China Im. & Ex. Lumber	T100	Tls. 85, sellers
Shanghai Electric & Asbestos	\$25	\$23, sellers
Dallas Horse Repository	T50	Tls. 25, sellers
Printing Co.	T50	Tls. 50, sellers

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

J. P. BISSET & Co.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Share Report for the week ending September 11th, 1908, states:—A moderate business has been done during the week in Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares and Maatschappij, &c. in Langkats. Other stocks have been very quiet. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks. Business has been quoted at \$760 and Ex. 73, and further shares are wanted. Marine and Fire Insurance.—No business reported. Shipping.—Indo-China S. N. Co. shares are wanted at Tls. 42 for the preferred and deferred shares together. Mining.—No business reported. Railings at the beginning of the week were in demand at Tls. 16 and a fair business was done at this rate. Sugars.—No business. Docks and Wharves.—Shanghai and Hongkew Wharves. Quotations were made earlier in the week at Tls. 165 cash, Tls. 167½ and Tls. 170 September and Tls. 170 December, but the market closed easier, business being reported on the 9th at Tls. 162½ and Tls. 164 and Tls. 165 September. Tls. 162½, Tls. 165 and Tls. 167½ December. Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co., Ltd. No business is reported, but a small lot of shares are on offer at Tls. 85. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment Co. A fair number of shares are on offer at Tls. 116½, without finding buyers. Industrial.—Cottons. Ewo Cotton S. & W. Co. Business has been reported in this stock at Tls. 61 for cash and Tls. 59 for September the market closing with sellers. Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco Co. Shares are on offer at Tls. 93. This Company has just declared an interim dividend of fifteen per cent. Maatschappij, &c. in Langkats. A good business was done in this stock during the week, the quotations being Tls. 600, Tls. 605 and Tls. 607½ September, Tls. 620 and Tls. 630 December, the market closing easy with sellers at Tls. 600 cash and September and Tls. 620 for December. Miscellaneous.—Hall & Holtz shares are still wanted at \$20 and Hotel des Colonies at Tls. 6. A transaction is reported in Central Stores at \$11½. Shanghai Electric Construction Co. Shares are on offer at 29, without finding buyers, and a fair number of shares changed hands at this price for December delivery. A transaction is reported in Shanghai Horse Bazaars at Tls. 41½. Loans and Debentures.—All the old established debentures are in demand at a premium. Waterworks Six per cent Debentures changed at Tls. 108. The Anglo-French Land Investment Co. are issuing Tls. 250,000 of 6 per cent debentures at par.

EXCHANGE.

HONGKONG, September 18th.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/9½
Bank Bills, on demand	1/9½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/9½
Bank Bills at 4 months' sight	1/9½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/9½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/9½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	224½
Credits 4 months' sight	229
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	182
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	43½
Credits, 60 days' sight	44½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	133½
Bank, on demand	134
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	133½
Bank on demand	134
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	75½
Private, 30 days' sight	76½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	87½
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	87½
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	76½
ON BATAVIA.—On demand	
ON HAIPHONG.—On demand	
ON SAIGON.—On demand	
ON BANGKOK.—On demand	
SWEDISHS, Bank's Buying Rate	
GOLD LEAF 100 fine, per tael	
BAR SILVER, per oz	

SUBSIDIARY COINS.

		per cent discount
Chinese	20 cents pieces...	\$5.55
"	10 " "	6.50
Hongkong	20 " "	4.80
"	10 " "	5.00

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG 18th September.—The volume of business transacted during the period under review is larger than that of the preceding fortnight, but rates show no improvement. From Saigon to Hongkong, regular liner are only able to secure part cargoes at 5 cents per picul; to Philippines, 19 cents 26 cents according to size; to N. C. Java, 20 cent; per picul last. The reports regarding the present Indo China and Philippines Rice Crops are very favourable. From Bangkok to Hongkong no demand. From N.C. Java, to Hongkong, the regular liners satisfy present demand. Newchang to Canton, three fixtures reported at 20 cents per picul. Coal freights are steady. From Maji to Hongkong, several boats closed at \$1.25 1.30 per ton; to Canton, 8.90 per ton last. From Hongay to Penang, 2.75 per ton. The following are the settlements:—

Kwangse—British steamer, 1,228 tons, Newchwang, Tairen and Chefoo to Canton, (12/20,000), 20 cent; per picul.
Kweiyang—British steamer, 1,044 tons, Newchwang, Tairen and Chefoo to Canton, (12/20,000), 20 cents per picul.
Anhui—British steamer, 1,350 tons, Moji to Canton, \$1.90 per ton.
Waikang—British steamer, 1,170 tons, Wakamatsu to Canton, \$1.95 per ton.
Myrtledene—British steamer, 1,320 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.30 per ton.
Macduff—British steamer, 1,822 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.25 per ton.
Oriel—British steamer, 2,206 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.25 per ton.
Benlawers—British steamer, 2,521 Moji to Hongkong, \$1.20 per ton.
Hallamshire—British steamer, 2,856 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.20 per ton.
Prometheus—Norwegian steamer, 1,023 tons, Tairen to Chinkiang, \$1.80 per ton.
Germania—German steamer, 1,714 tons, Hongkong to Penang, \$2.75 per ton.
Ragnar—Norwegian steamer, 1,220 tons, Rajang to Hongkong, \$11,500 lump sum.
Fiume—German steamer, 850 tons, Saigon to 1 port Philippines (20,000), 25 cents per picul.
Skrunstad—Norwegian steamer, 860 tons, Saigon to Cebu (20,000), 26 cents per picul.
Fri—Norwegian steamer, 859 tons, Saigon to Manila 28,30,000 19 cents per picul.
Loyal—German steamer, 1,237 tons, 2/3 port North Coast Java to Hongkong, \$20,500 lump sum.
Quarta—German steamer, 1,146 tons, monthly, 1/1 month, \$5,002 per month.
Solstad—Norwegian steamer, 897 tons, monthly, 1/1 month, \$4,250 per month.

FREIGHT.

SHANGHAI.—From Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s Report, dated September 10th:—Our Homeward Freight market remains in much the same state as when last writing and exports seem to languish in spite of the lowness of exchange. Coastwise:—Here things are worse than ever, in fact one might almost say that coasting trade is at a standstill;—the rice and cotton crops are not yet quite ready for export whilst the weakness in exchange stop coal-dealing more or less, there is consequently very little demand in any direction and the quantity of tonnage seeking employment is daily growing larger. For London and the Continent:—The next cargo-boats on this berth will be the s.s. "Awa Maru" sailing for Marseilles, London and Antwerp to-morrow, the s.s. "Jason" for Genoa, Marseilles and Liverpool direct on the 15th and s.s. "Homeneus" for London, Amsterdam and Antwerp on the 17th inst. For Havre and Hamburg:—the s.s. "Ambria" sails on the 17th inst. For New York via Suez:—this berth is now occupied by the s.s. "Indramayo"—as she has filled her Shanghai allotment she will clear on the 12th inst and be followed by the s.s. "Vendalia" due to arrive on the 15th, sailing on the 18th inst.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

September—ARRIVALS.
11, Choysang, British str., from Calcutta.
11, Silesia, German str., from Hamburg.
11, Taming, British str., from Manila.
12, Anchenblae, British str., from Newcastle.
12, Chipshing, British str., from Tientsin.
12, Chiyuen, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
12, Fooksang, British str., from Moji.
12, Helene, German str., from Tourane.
12, Meefoo, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
12, M. Jeben, German str., from Samarang.
12, Victoria, Swedish str., from Nan Chau.

12, Wongkoi, German str., from Bangkok.
13, Kiangping, Chinese str., from Chinkiang.
13, Mandasan M., Jap. str., from Kuchinotsu.
13, Shoshu Maru, Jap. str., from Tamsui.
13, Ville de la Ciotat, Fr. str., from Marseilles.
14, Amigo, German str., from Haiphong.
14, Austria, Austrian str., from Trieste.
14, Awa Maru, Jap. str., from Yokohama.
14, Cathay, Danish str., from Moji.
14, Lyndhurst, Brit. barque, from Bangkok.
14, Pitsanulok, German str., from Bangkok.
14, Quarta, German str., from Amoy.
14, Rajah, German str., from Bangkok.
14, Shantung, British str., from Sourabaya.
14, Yeboshi Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
14, Yingehow, British str., from Shanghai.
14, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
15, Anhui, British str., from Moji.
15, Bendorao, British str., from London.
15, Halvard, Norw. str., from Newchwang.
15, Hangsang, British str., from Shanghai.
15, Kaifong, British str., from Iloilo.
15, Pathan, British str., from Liverpool.
15, Telemachus, British str., from Saigon.
15, Tranquebar, Danish str., from Singapore.
16, Choshun Maru, Jap. str., from Shanghai.
16, Chowtai, German str., from Bangkok.
16, Derwent, British str., from Saigon.
16, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
16, Joshin Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
16, Kwangtai, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
16, Oriental, British str., from Bombay.
16, Tosa Maru, Japanese str., from Japan.
17, Aldenham, British str., from Yokohama.
17, E. of China, British str., from Vancouver.
17, Foochow, British str., from Shanghai.
17, Gregory Apcar, Brit. str., from Calcutta.
17, Hitachi Maru, Jap. str., from Singapore.
17, Prinz Waldemar, Ger. str., from Sydney.

September—DEPARTURES.

11, Capri, Italian str., for Singapore.
11, Fiume, German str., for Saigon.
11, Hokuto Maru, Japanese str., for Saigon.
11, Pera, British str., for Shanghai.
11, Rindar, Norwegian str., for Singapore.
11, Zafro, British str., for Manila.
12, C. Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Hoihow.
12, Daijin Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
12, Germania, German str., for Hongay.
12, Liangchow, British str., for Iloilo.
12, Ponglong, German str., for Hongay.
12, Wakamatsu M., Jap. str., for Chinkiang.
13, America M., Jap. str., for San Francisco.
13, Borneo, German str., for Sandakan.
13, Haiching, British str., for Coast Ports.
13, Hanoi, German str., for K. C. Wan.
13, Huichow, British str., for Swatow.
13, Ithava, German str., for Chinkiang.
13, Kohsichang, German str., for Bangkok.
13, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
13, Lennox, British str., for Vancouver.
13, Loongsang, British str., for Manila.
13, Slavonia, German str., for Singapore.
13, Yochow, British str., for Ningpo.
14, Loosok, German str., for Bangkok.
14, Toonan, Chinese str., for Amoy.
14, Ville de la Ciotat, Fr. str., for Shanghai.
15, Australien, French str., for Europe, &c.
15, Haimun, British str., for Coast Ports.
15, Kwongsang, British str., for Ningpo.
15, Lamington, British str., for Samarang.
15, Taming, British str., for Manila.
16, Awa Maru, Japanese str., for Singapore.
16, Bendoran, British str., for Nagasaki.
16, Choysang, British str., for Swatow.
16, Fooksang, British str., for Singapore.
16, Johanne, German str., for Swatow.
16, Kiukiang, British str., for Shanghai.
16, Oriental, British str., for Shanghai.
16, Shoshu Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
16, Signal, German str., for Hoihow.
17, Austria, Austrian str., for Shanghai.
17, Bourbon, French str., for Saigon.
17, Cathay, Danish str., for Singapore.
17, Kawa Maru, Jap. str., for Seattle.
17, Laertes, British str., for Saigon.
17, Mandasan Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
17, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
17, Pathan, British str., for Shanghai.
17, Quarta, German str., for Samarang.

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